

THE Freemason's Chronicle;

A WEEKLY RECORD OF MASONIC INTELLIGENCE.

SANCTIONED BY THE GRAND LODGE OF ENGLAND.

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PROJECTED EXTENSION OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

THE Quarterly General Court of the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls has been held, and the vexed question as to the purchase of Lyncombe House and grounds seems to be as far off settlement as ever. In fact, the more that is done in the matter the less likely it appears that an amicable solution will be arrived at. It is greatly to be regretted that one section of the supporters of one of our Charities should find it necessary to threaten legal proceedings in order to stay the action of another, or that one party should persist in their efforts to carry a proposition so repugnant to the feelings of their fellow workers without first endeavouring to answer the objections raised, or to ascertain the feeling of the general body of subscribers. On questions requiring the smallest amount of discussion it seems impossible, even among Freemasons, to prevent the oft-repeated charge of personality being made. It appears that because one or two members have expressed themselves as strongly in opposition to the vote as others have in favour of it, that a war is to be waged between them, and, as may be imagined under such circumstances, the meeting of Saturday last—so far as this subject was concerned—was of a most stormy nature. Because Bro. A objects to the proposal of Bro. B, it seems to be immediately assumed that a personal affront is intended, whereas, as we have frequently pointed out, the motives of Bro. A are as likely to be sincere as are those of Bro. B; one entertains one opinion, the other the opposite. To assume that this shall be a cause for personal quarrel is absurd in the extreme; and we must say we were somewhat surprised that so much of the time of the meeting of Saturday was allowed to be occupied in making and answering charges purely of a personal nature, and not in any way bearing on the subject at issue. If feeling is to be allowed to interfere in the discussions which must necessarily arise in connection with the Institutions, it will speedily be found that ruin will result, and therefore we again urge all concerned to settle the matter amicably if it is any way possible to do so.

Some of the objectors to the vote, finding that friendly protest was of no avail, and feeling that no respect was shown for their opinion, determined on procuring legal advice as to whether the purchase was in accordance with the objects for which the Institution was established. The following questions were accordingly submitted to Mr. C. Locock Webb, Q.C., whose Masonic position as Past Grand Officer of England it was thought would lend additional weight to his decision.

COUNSEL'S OPINION IS REQUESTED—

1. Whether the Charity Funds collected for the general purposes of the Institution can be applied to the purchase of Houses and Land not really necessary for the purposes of the Charity? (*vide* Cl. 2.)

2. Can the Trustees be held personally liable to the Charity for any funds which they may have applied already, or may in future expend out of any other than the Sustentation Fund, in the acquisition of Buildings and Land?

3. What course is advised to prevent the monies of the Institution being devoted to other purposes than those set forth in Cl. 2?

In answer to the above, the following opinions are given:—

1. I am of opinion that the purchase, by the Trustees of the General Fund, of Lyncombe House and grounds would be clearly *ultra vires*, and an illegal application of the monies vested in them for the general

purposes of the Institution. It would not be competent for any General Court to make any new law, or any grant authorising such purchase, or the advance out of the general fund of the proposed consideration money of £6,500, or any part thereof; and any resolution purporting to do so would be utterly null and void. I think that the notice convening the Special General Court for to-morrow (the 3rd January) would be bad, even if the objects of such meeting were valid, instead of being, as in my judgment they are, clearly invalid.

The funds collected for the general purposes of the Institution could not properly be applied to the purchase of any houses or lands not really necessary for the purposes of the Institution, and I doubt if any of such funds could, strictly speaking, be applied in the purchase of any building or lands (see laws II. and VII.) The General Fund would seem to be applicable to the maintenance, clothing, and education of the children, who, being duly elected, are or may become inmates of the establishment. The "Sustentation" Fund would seem to be applied to the maintenance of the buildings.

If it is deemed expedient to enlarge or add to the existing Institution a special fund should be subscribed for that purpose.

2. If the Trustees have already applied, or should in future apply monies out of the General Fund in or towards the purchase of Lyncombe House and grounds, I think they would be personally liable to recoup all such monies.

3. I am of opinion that an action in the Chancery Division may be maintained at the suit of any member of the General Committee (see Law XXXV.) who should sue on behalf of himself and all other members of such Committee, except the defendants, against the Trustees for an injunction to restrain the contemplated misappropriation of the general fund. But, under the circumstances of this case, I should strongly advise that every effort should be made to avoid litigation. To that end I would suggest that those on whose behalf I am advising, being Governors, should attend the meeting to-morrow and state their objections; they will not, of course, vote upon any resolution. And if resolution purporting to authorise such purchase should be carried, I think they should at once write to each of the Trustees such a letter as I have already suggested in conference before commencing an action.

LOCOCK WEBB.

Lincoln's Inn, 2nd January 1880.

Now, in the face of the above, and even assuming that Bro. Webb is wrong, and that the brethren who sought his advice are wrong, what can be the motive for endeavouring to pass this vote in so hurried a manner and in direct opposition to the desire of a large and representative minority? It is not possible to ensure a large attendance of brethren at Freemasons' Hall at twelve o'clock on a Saturday,—why that time should have been fixed for the regular Courts is, and always has been, a mystery to us—and this seems to be taken advantage of to secure a majority for the proposers of the vote. One side says that unless the question is at once settled the chance of purchase will be lost, a statement which is flatly contradicted by the other; and as neither side produce any evidence in support of their statements, it is impossible to say which is right. The main objection appears to be that the price to be paid is greatly in excess of the value of the land, and although the proposers express so much concern lest their plan shall be frustrated, it appears to be impossible for them to procure an unbiassed opinion of the value of the property. It is admitted that the Institution can afford something above what an ordinary purchaser would be willing to pay, because the acquisition would be beneficial in many ways; but if the price asked—as is stated by all who have taken the trouble to mention figures—is £4,000 above the market value of the property, the course taken to oppose the expenditure is not only justifiable, but the efforts of the brethren who have organised it greatly to be commended. If the property were proved to be worth say £6,000, no one would object to the extra £500 outlay if it were necessary in order to secure the plot for the Institution, but at present the only estimate given of the value is that of the objectors, who say that if put up to

anction it would fetch between £2,000 and £2,500. Can this be contradicted? If so, why is it not done? Conciliation would be much the better course for all to pursue, and if each side agreed to discuss the various points calmly and thoroughly, we believe one would willingly give way to the other rather than allow a continuance of a strife which must be pronounced on all sides as likely to materially affect the future of the Institution. As Bro. Clabon said, the question to be considered was—whether it was desirable to buy the property? to which we add another,—is the price asked a fair one for the Institution to pay? Surely it should not be impossible for these two questions to be satisfactorily disposed of. We trust that at the adjourned meeting, which is fixed for Saturday next, the 24th instant, the subject will be amicably settled, and that all who have taken a part in the discussion will again unite in their efforts to promote the interests of the Girls' School.

THE ELECTION OF SECRETARIES TO THE MASONIC INSTITUTIONS.

AT the time of the election of a Secretary to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls in 1878, to fill the vacancy caused by the death of Bro. Little, considerable discussion took place as to the advisability of continuing the restriction making it compulsory for voters to personally deliver their ballot papers at the place of polling. As was pointed out at the time, this law virtually has the effect of placing the election entirely in the hands of the London brethren, the expense both in money and time entailed by a visit to the metropolis practically shutting out the Provincial members. When it is taken into consideration that upwards of one-half of the subscriptions year by year contributed to our Charities are sent by country brethren, it must be admitted that the law operates somewhat unfairly. The post of Secretary is one of the most, even if not the most, important in connection with the Institutions, and for this reason the whole of the contributors should have an equal voice in the election. Since the question was raised in 1878, measures have been taken to remove the restrictions both as regards the Boys' and the Girls' Institutions. On motions duly given it has been decided that for the future the election of Secretary shall be conducted in a similar manner to that observed in the election of children to the Schools—that is, by ballot papers, which, when signed by the voter, may be presented, on his or her behalf, by any member of the General Committee; thus avoiding the trouble of a personal attendance at London or wherever the poll may be taken. We trust it may be some time before it will be needful to put this new law into practical use, as all wish the three brethren who now fill the position of Secretaries to the Institutions health and strength to continue their labours for many years to come; but as it is certain that at some time or other it will be necessary to elect successors, it is as well that proper arrangements be made beforehand. We look upon this change as one that was greatly needed, and feel sure it will conduce to the welfare of the Institutions. On one point alone the alteration is justifiable,—it will be the means of forming another connecting link between the brethren of London, and those of the Provinces, who have hitherto—and we trust always will continue to compete with each other as to who shall do the most for the Charities. On a question of so much importance to the whole body of Subscribers as the choice of a Secretary, it is but natural that all who are interested should desire to express an opinion, and they are entitled to every consideration which will enable them to do so. When large bodies of supporters of an Institution find themselves shut out from the exercise of what they consider their just rights in connection therewith, they naturally take less interest in the welfare of the undertaking, and as a consequence the subscriptions fall off. There is a widespread feeling in many of the Provinces that local Charities may be established, and successfully carried on, independently of those in London. At present these local efforts have been directed with a view of helping in the good work carried on by the central Charities, without any rivalry or opposition, but if restrictions such as that which used to exist on the question of voting for Secretary are allowed to continue, it will speedily be found that the local Institutions will receive the whole of the support of the

brethren of their immediate neighbourhoods, instead of being, as they are considered at present, of secondary importance. To prevent the chance of a withdrawal on the part of the Provincial brethren from the maintenance of the central Charities, every concession which can reasonably be accorded should be made by the London members to the Provincials, who, be it remembered, labour under great disadvantage by reason of the distance at which they reside from the point of action. The slightest sign of a breach between the two sections should be at once stamped out.

At the Quarterly Court of the Girls' School, held on Saturday, the question as to how the elections should be conducted in the future again came under the notice of the brethren assembled, the vote altering the rules so as to admit of balloting without personal attendance, which was passed at the last Court, on the proposition of Bro. Birch, being a part of the minutes offered for confirmation. As will be seen from the report which appears on another page, Bro. A. E. Gladwell moved the non-confirmation of so much thereof as related to this subject, his reason for doing so being, that he considered the matter should be left in the hands of the House Committee, who from their personal acquaintance with the duties of the Secretary were, he thought, far more competent to select a brother fit for the office than brethren residing at a distance, and who perhaps might never have occasion for personal communication with the officer appointed. We admit that brethren whose official duties in connection with the Institutions bring them into almost daily intercourse with the Secretary would doubtless be the best judges of the man they would like to fill the post, but it must be remembered that the Secretaries are not appointed solely for their ability to prepare the work for the various Committees, but rather to bring the claims of the Charities under the notice of the Craft at large, and secure subscriptions to enable the good work to be continued. As the future of the Charities in a measure depends on the ability of the Secretaries, there should be no restriction which would act prejudicially to any particular candidate for the post. Another argument used by Bro. Gladwell was, that a brother from a distant Province might, by the combined efforts of his friends, be elected, and then he might find himself in a very awkward position, perhaps unknown to but one or two London brethren, and too far away from his own circle to receive any material aid from them. Should such a result occur, he would have to open up a field for himself, a task no man of energy would be likely to look upon as impossible, especially when backed, as he would be, by the reputation of the Charity he represented and the friends who had secured his election. It must be remembered that from whatever part a candidate may come, before he is elected he must secure a number of votes in excess of all other brethren who are competing, and this could hardly be done without support being rendered from some other source than the candidate's own particular circle. The only objection we see to the present arrangement is, that it will greatly increase the number of candidates. As a consequence, the votes would be so divided as to render it possible for a comparatively small number to carry the day. We would suggest that a preliminary ballot be taken, and that the four or five then proved to be at the head of the poll should compete among themselves for the post. It would then be necessary for a brother to secure the support of about one-third of the voters before he could be sure of success, and if any one could obtain that proportion it would have to be purely by ability rather than by private influence. We have before stated that we hope the occasion is long distant when an opportunity will arise for a test of the new system; still it behoves us to consider every argument now. When the time does arrive, it will be too late to make any alteration, just as it was in 1878, when numerous brethren would have tried to pass the resolution which has since been brought forward if they had seen a possibility of its being done in time to have then become available.

HOLLOWAY'S PILLS AND OINTMENT.—During piercing winds and excessive variations of temperature every one is more or less liable to internal disease. Throat, chest, liver, bowels, kidneys and skin, all suffer in some degree, and may be relieved by rubbing in this Ointment, aided by proper doses of the Pills, for administering which full directions accompany each box; in truth, any one who thoroughly masters Holloway's "instructions" will, in remedying disease, exchange the labour of an hour for the profit of a lifetime. All bronchial, pulmonary, and throat disorders require that the Ointment should be thoroughly well rubbed upon the skin twice a-day, with great regularity considerable briskness, and much persistence.

QUARTERLY COURT OF THE GIRLS' SCHOOL.

THE Quarterly Court of the Governors of, and Subscribers to the Royal Masonic Institution for Girls, was held last Saturday at Freemasons' Hall, Col. Creton, Grand Treasurer, presiding. When the minutes of the Quarterly Court held in October last were read, Bro. Arthur E. Gladwell, before they were put for confirmation, moved that the portion of them be not confirmed which recorded the carrying of Bro. Birch's motion for giving the provincial brethren the choice of voting by balloting paper at the election of Secretary. Although a member of the General Committee, he would be willing to surrender his privilege of voting to the House Committee, who he thought, from their personal acquaintance with the Secretary, were better able to form a judgment of his ability than brethren at a distance. He thought the power of electing the Secretary should be vested in the House Committee. Col. Burdett seconded the motion, which was opposed by Bro. Edward Cox, as Bro. Birch's motion was carried at a meeting when a large number of provincial brethren were present. In his opinion, it would be unfair that the motion should be now confirmed at a meeting which they did not attend, as they would if they had had notice that Bro. Gladwell's motion would be made. Such a proceeding would lead to a secession of the country brethren, whom the London brethren should do all they could to keep on good terms with. Bro. Gladwell's motion was put and lost, and the minutes of the October Court were confirmed. The minutes of the Special Court of the 3rd inst. were next read, as well as a letter from Bro. John Thomas Moss, with copy of opinion by Bro. Charles Locock Webb, Q.C., advising that the purchase of Lyncombe House and grounds could not legally be made. Col. Creton therefore asked for an adjournment of the Court with respect to the confirmation of the minutes of 3rd January, and Col. Burdett having moved this adjournment, it was seconded by the Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, who took advantage of his seconding the motion to analyse Bro. H. T. Thompson's printed circular, which was in the following words:—

TO THE SUBSCRIBERS TO THE ROYAL MASONIC INSTITUTION FOR GIRLS.

Proposal to expend Six Thousand Five Hundred Pounds in the purchase of a House and Three Quarters of an Acre of Land.

MY LORDS, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,—Having been improperly interrupted in attempting to make known to the Subscribers present at Freemasons' Hall on Saturday last the circumstances attending the opposition to this project, and the Treasurer having omitted to state the objections which had been communicated to him, this means is taken of bringing the facts to your knowledge.

You are possibly already aware that by public advertisements, on 15th November last, notice was given that a Special General Court would be held on that day week, on the requisition of the Treasurer alone, to consider a resolution proposed by himself, to the effect that £6,500 should be spent for the purpose above stated. It was subsequently reported that a meeting, presided over by the Treasurer, and consisting of six members of the Building Committee, and about twelve others, had been held, and the resolution passed. After consultation with other Governors, who are opposed to this mode of dealing with charitable funds, I waited on the Secretary to see the minutes, and to obtain a copy of the laws. The latter, I was informed, were not yet printed. In a friendly way I directed the attention of the Secretary to the fact that the meeting was an illegal one, for several reasons, but, in particular, from the proposal not having been reported to a previous General Court or General Committee, as required by section 34 of the Laws. He denied that there was any irregularity, and affirmed that everything had been done strictly in accordance with the Laws and with precedent.

The legal aspect of the matter appears to have been reconsidered, for, at the General Committee Meeting of 24th December, the Treasurer announced that a question had arisen on the construction of the Laws, and to ensure the matter being in order he would convene another Special General Court, for 3rd January, to re-pass the same resolution. On the appearance of the second advertisement I again made a personal objection at the office, to the proposed meeting; but finding it was determined to proceed with the scheme, my friends agreed to take counsel's opinion upon the subject.

The case was accordingly stated by Mr. J. T. Moss, and the opinion of one of the most eminent Queen's Counsel of the Chancery Bar is now before you; and although I do not feel at liberty to publish that learned gentleman's non-professional observations in connection with his conciliatory advice at the conference which I had the honour to attend, I may express regret that our efforts to give effect to the general purport of his kind recommendation—to make further endeavours to stop the intended illegal proceedings by moral suasion—have been repulsed by the action of the Treasurer or his advisers, after a knowledge of Mr. Locock Webb's opinion and advice.

The so-called meeting was held, the Treasurer again officiating as Chairman upon his own proposition. The personal communication of Mr. J. T. Moss to the Treasurer, after conference with counsel, was not made known to the subscribers present, an amendment to delay the purchase was defeated, and the original motion declared carried by a majority. In accordance with the advice of counsel those of our friends who were present declined to vote on either question.

Under the same advice, as a further effort to prevent litigation, a friendly protest has been addressed to Lord Leigh, the Earl of Carnarvon, Lord Skelmersdale, and Col. Burdett, co-Trustees with the Treasurer, and should that unfortunately fail, we shall have before us, what counsel terms "the moral duty of preventing by law a contemplated misappropriation of the Funds of a Charitable Institution." No personal considerations whatever can be permitted to interfere with that duty should the necessity for discharging it unhappily occur.

In order to prevent misapprehension, the Governors with whom I am acting particularly desire that these facts should be in the pos-

session of those Subscribers who may attend the confirmation meeting, to be held at Freemasons' Hall, at twelve o'clock on Saturday next, and in their names, as in my own,

I have the honour to be,

My Lords, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient faithful Servant,

HENRY T. THOMPSON,

Life Governor.

Nightingale-road, Clapton, E.
5th January 1880.

Bro. Woodford complained of this circular, and said it was not the first time in the history of the Institution that such circulars had been sent. He referred to a circular sent a twelvemonth ago after Bro. Thompson had addressed Colonel Creton, in which circular offensive bynames were applied to Colonel Creton and other members. Were they, as gentlemen and Masons, to sanction such proceedings? The present circular contained palpable untruths, in that it stated that the Chairman had omitted to state the objections which had been communicated to him, and that Bro. Thompson had been improperly interrupted. The charge of improper interruption referred to him (Bro. Woodford). Colonel Creton was not open to the charge of withholding the objections to the meeting, because Bro. Moss had stated that his communication was private, and that he came as *amicus curiæ*. With regard to the alleged improper interruption, he (Bro. Woodford) rose to a point of order, Bro. Thompson not having moved an amendment, and he had no right to advise the brethren not to vote because the proceedings were illegal without stating why they were illegal. This ground was also taken by Bro. Gover. Bro. Woodford concluded by observing that this system of adopting personality was disgraceful and derogatory, and in opposition to the spirit of Freemasonry. Bro. Edward Cox thought an adjournment advisable, as if the question were decided in the present state of excitement, it might be damaging to the interests of the Institution. His own opposition to the proposed outlay was based on his idea that the amount to be paid was too large, but if at a future meeting the Craft were fully represented, and they decided to purchase the property at £6,500, he should bow to their decision, and never say anything more about it. An adjournment might be made till the Quarterly Court in April. The Chairman said Mr. Evill expected an answer this day. Bro. H. T. Thompson, not wishing to aggravate the warmth of feeling, desired to have the proceedings conducted legally. As Bro. Woodford had referred to a circular sent out by him (Bro. Thompson), he would merely explain that it was a lampoon, written under irritated feelings, but it was not circulated all through the Craft, but only among a few friends. He was sorry he had written it, and if he had thought over it once again he should not have done it. He did not think that if it was shown to people outside the immediate circle they would have recognised any of the persons to whom bynames had been applied. With respect to the interruption by Bro. Woodford, he certainly was interrupted, and Bro. Cox had to complain of the same thing when he was speaking. Bro. Clabon would like to throw oil on the troubled waters. He could not believe that any real Mason would go into the Chancery Division. Was it desirable to take these new premises? He thought it was. Let them throw aside legal cobwebs, and consider whether it was desirable to buy the property. He thought a fortnight would be well employed in considering this. The confirmation of the minutes of the Special Court of 3rd January was then adjourned for a fortnight. On the motion of Col. Burney, authority was given to the Trustees to consult counsel on the legal question. Forty-five candidates were declared to comprise the list for the April election, and thirteen vacancies were also declared for filling up. Bro. Louis Hirsch withdrew for the present his motion—"That a Committee be appointed to consider the manner in which the scrutiny of the votes shall be made, both for the election of candidates and for other purposes, and to report to the next General Court."

The following motion by Bro. W. H. B. Tomlinson, J.P., Past Prov. Grand Reg. W. Yorks.:—"That in pursuance of notice this Court accept the sum of One Thousand Guineas from the Province of West York for the purchase of a perpetual presentation of one girl to the School, to be called the 'Bentley Shaw Presentation,' the right of such presentation being vested in the Provincial Grand Master of West York for the time being, or other duly authorised person, in accordance with an agreement similar to those providing for presentations from West York to the Boys' School," was carried.

The motion by Bro. Edward Cox, Vice-Patron, Past Prov. G.W. Norths and Hunts, "That the question as to an increase to the salaries of the Head Governess, Assistant Governesses, &c., &c., be referred to a special Committee." And, in the event of the foregoing being carried, "That such Committee consist of nine members of the General Committee, to be nominated at this Quarterly Court," was declared to be out of order, as the General Committee had alone the power to fix the salaries of paid officers. This being the whole of the business, the proceedings were brought to a close with a vote of thanks to the chairman.

THE FIFTEEN SECTIONS

Will be worked as under:

By the members of the Hyde Park Lodge of Instruction, No. 1425, at the Salisbury Lodge of Instruction, No. 435, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., on Thursday, 29th inst. Bros. George Read P.M. 511 W.M., George Davis S.W. 167 S.W., G. Reynolds 1441 J.W. First Lecture—Bros. C. Powell, Foskett, Rogers, West, Coop, Maillard, Pocock. Second Lecture—Bros. Williams, George Davis, C. Webster, Reynolds, Dutton. Third Lecture—Bros. Festa, Burton, Side. Bros. Cull S.W. 1446 Preceptor, W. J. Collins I.G. 766 Hon. Sec.

CORRESPONDENCE.

—:O:—

DEVON EDUCATIONAL FUND.

To the Editor of the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE.

DEAR SIR AND BROTHER,—When a Brother in the position of "A P.M. AND P.P.G.J.W. OF DEVON" takes upon himself to give information upon an important subject, through the medium of a recognised journal of our Order, that medium being the FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, and the subject upon which he writes a local Masonic Institution in his own Province, one at least expects facts, and that the writer be conversant with his subject.

Referring to the first letter of "A P.M. AND P.P.G.J.W. OF DEVON," published in your journal of the 27th December last, I now re-produce his own words:—We have, on former occasions, contributed largely, and shall probably still continue to do so, to the great Institutions of London; but, finding that our children had to contest for the benefits of these Institutions with all the other Lodges in the kingdom, and that it took a great deal of money and a great deal of personal exertion to get children elected, we determined upon the adoption of a system of educating and sustaining our children at home."

In the most fraternal spirit, I ask "A P.M. AND P.P.G.J.W. OF DEVON" what construction is to be placed upon that sentence?

If it means anything, it means—Devon in the past has had so much expense and so much trouble to get her orphans elected into the great Charities in London, with results nil, that "we" (the Province) have "determined" upon a system of educating and "sustaining" the children at home. Or, in other words, leading those who know no better to believe that in the future the Province of Devon intended keeping her orphans at home. The writer hereby does a positive injury, by misleading those to whom we look for votes to aid the Province in the future elections of our children into the London Masonic Schools.

Before me, as I write, is the agenda paper calling the half yearly meeting of the "Committee of Petitions for Devon." This has just been issued, and summons the meeting for Tuesday next, the 20th inst. It is therein stated that part of the business of the Committee will be to select candidates from the Province for the great Masonic Schools in London respectively—a girl and boy—such candidates to receive the support of the Province.

Surely, my brother, this is not carrying out your expressed determination of "educating" and "sustaining" your children "at home."

Again, and for the information of "A P.M. AND P.P.G.J.W. OF DEVON," do I refer to the bye-laws of the Devon Educational Fund, here quoted:—"I. This Fund is established for the purpose of raising means to be applied to educate, clothe, and advance in life the children of Freemasons of the Province of Devon."

Sustentation or "sustaining," as roundly and broadly stated in the first letter of "A P.M. AND P.P.G.J.W. OF DEVON," in your issue of 27th December last—and stated without the slightest qualification—is no part of the object of the Educational Fund of Devon, and in that form has no existence.

The Bye-laws of the Devon Fund, which I will here quote, will again show this more clearly:—"VI. The General Committee be authorised in extreme cases to give additional assistance in or towards the maintenance of children, provided a majority of two-thirds of the members present at a meeting of such Committee specially convened for that purpose vote in favour of such application being granted."

Passing by the apparent want of good taste exhibited by "A P.M. AND P.P.G.J.W. OF DEVON," in totally ignoring in his letter of 27th December last the aid received from the great Charities, as also the bumptious "we have on former occasions contributed largely to the great Charities in London;" and again, "Our children having had to contest with all other Lodges throughout the kingdom for the benefit of these Institutions," I ask my dear brother to tell me who he supposes the children of Devon should "contest" with, if not with the children brought forward by each Province and every Lodge throughout England, who have, like Devon, by their subscriptions and donations to these great Charities, earned the right of sharing the benefits of the great London Masonic Charities.

Heartily, earnestly, and hopefully, I am with the Devon Educational Fund as the means of giving timely relief to those children who cannot be selected by the Committee of Petitions of the Province for the great Charities, and who would be left out in the cold, helpless and in want, if it were not for this local Institution. Proud am I of the part I took, with others, in its creation. This Fund will prosper, and, with judicious management, has a great future before it, and most cheerfully do I subscribe to all and each of the colourless platitudes expressed by "A P.M. AND P.P.G.J.W. OF DEVON," and all the good likely to be accomplished, which have again and again been reiterated, years ago, by other of our Provinces, with whom local Masonic Educational Funds are now time-honoured and flourishing Institutions.

My worthy brother, in his letter of the 10th inst., has amended himself wondrously; all therein is quite safe and thoroughly orthodox, the element of rash assertions is absent, "we" is not so pronounced; altogether this adds truth and grace to his style, he evidently has looked up authorities, has taken a peep at bye-laws since giving birth to the crude bantling of 27th ult., and I now feel sure he is much better up in his subject than a week or two since.

Hoping yet to get the steam up in conjunction with "A P.M. AND P.P.G.J.W. OF DEVON" for the progress and prosperity of the Devon Educational Fund, and reciprocating the good wish of my brother for the year we are in, with the calmest possible spirit, I beg, Dear Sir, to subscribe myself,

Yours fraternally,

AU FAIT.

INSTALLATION MEETINGS, &c.

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ST. JAMES'S UNION LODGE No. 180.

THE installation meeting was held on Tuesday, 13th January, at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street. Bros. E. Farwig W.M., W. Stollard S.W., C. J. Wade J.W., Pillin P.M. Treasurer, W. C. Parsons P.M. Sec., G. B. Fletcher S.D., W. H. Baker I.G., Hart W.S., Bishop A.W.S., P.M.'s A. Stonor, Cameron, L. Herf, A. L. Annett, and a numerous assemblage of brethren and visitors. The Lodge was opened, and the minutes were confirmed. Bro. Boemper was raised to the third degree, and Bro. Denne was passed by the W.M. A Board of Installed Masters was opened, and Bro. W. H. Stollard S.W. and W.M. elect was presented to the Lodge and duly installed into the chair by the retiring W.M., whose working was perfect; in fact, might be equalled, but not excelled. There were thirteen W.M.'s and P.M.'s present. On the re-admission of the brethren, the Worshipful Master invested and appointed his Officers:—Bros. Farwig I.P.M., Wade S.W., G. Fletcher J.W., Pillin P.M. Treasurer, W. C. Parsons P.M. Secretary, Wood S.D., Baker J.D., Bishop I.G., Cameron P.M. D.C., L. Herf P.M. W.S., Maxted A.W.S., Chester A.D.C., Gilbert P.M. Tyler. The report of the Audit Committee was read; there was a good balance in the hands of the Treasurer. The Benevolent Fund showed a balance of £153 11s 3d. The report was unanimously adopted. The W.M. announced his intention to act as Steward at the next Festival for the Girls' School; he is also a Steward for the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution; Bro. Pillin P.M. and Treasurer consented to act as Steward for the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys. £10 10s was voted to the W.M. for his list, and £10 10s to Bro. Pillin. The W.M. took the opportunity of thanking the brethren for placing him in the chair. The resignation of two brethren was accepted, with regret. Hearty good wishes were given by the Visitors and brethren, and the Lodge closed. An adjournment to the Crown Room, where a sumptuous banquet was provided by Bro. A. Best, and superintended by Bro. E. Dawkins. The W.M. provided some excellent menus, with his monogram. The snuff-box, the gift of the widow of the late Bro. Francatelli, bearing an appropriate inscription, was handed round, and much admired. Grace having been said, the W.M. proposed the toast of the Queen and the Craft. The National Anthem was sung by Bro. Burden. The toast of H.R.H. the M.W. Grand Master was enthusiastically drunk, and Bro. Pillin sang "God bless the Prince of Wales." Bro. E. Farwig I.P.M. then rose; he that evening occupied a new position—that of I.P.M., and in that capacity had pleasure in proposing the toast of the W.M., whom he had installed into the chair. If the Worshipful Master had the co-operation of the Officers of the Lodge, he would be able to carry out the duties required of him. Bro. Russell sang, "Stay, my darling, stay." The W.M., in reply, said it was with feelings of pride and pleasure he returned thanks for the toast. It was seven years since he was initiated, by the late Bro. G. Bubb, whose memory they all revered. The I.P.M. who had installed him that day was one whose qualities he would strive to emulate; it would be a proud pleasure to follow in such footsteps. He hoped, during his year of office, to be able to act in every way so as to give the Lodge satisfaction. The W.M. then proposed the health of the Installing Master. He had performed that duty in every way to their satisfaction, and all appreciated him. He had another pleasing duty, and that was to place on his breast a jewel; may he live long to wear it. While Bro. Farwig remains with us the brethren will have the assistance of one ever ready to further their interests. Bro. Burden again delighted the brethren with a song. Bro. Farwig I.P.M. felt pleased and proud to hear words like those uttered by the W.M.; the kind respect and the good feeling now exhibited to him he hoped would exist until time with him shall be no more. He hoped to be associated with their Lodge for many years. The W.M., in proposing the toast of the Visitors, said he was proud to see them. They had twenty visiting brethren on this occasion, generally they had more, but if they lacked quantity they had quality. He would call on Bros. Burden No. 11, Parkinson No. 22, G. H. Goodey No. 34, and H. M. Levy P.M. 188, to respond to the toast. Bro. Pillin P.M. then sang the "Welcome Guest." Bros. Burden, Parkinson, G. H. Goodey, and H. Levy replied; all paid compliments to the Installing Master, and for the hospitality shown by the W.M. The Worshipful Master then proposed the toast of the P.M.'s; in them he placed every reliance; if he required assistance he was sure they would give it him; their knowledge of Freemasonry was so perfect that he could not err under their guidance. Bro. J. Innes then sang "The Skipper and his Boy." Bro. Cameron P.M. said he was initiated in the St. James's Union Lodge, twenty years ago; they had seen many changes, but the P.M.'s were always ready to render service. In the name of the P.M.'s he wished the members health and prosperity. The Worshipful Master then proposed the toast of the Officers; he might congratulate the Lodge on having such a competent staff. The Treasurer is one in whom they can place every confidence, their Secretary is second to none; he would ask the brethren to give the toast the reception it merited. Bro. Pillin said he followed in the footsteps of a very worthy and respected Mason, the late Bro. G. Bubb; all his energies were at their command; on the accounts being presented to them, they would see that the balance was on the right side. Bro. Parsons said he was appointed Secretary after the retirement of Bro. Stacey; he had been reappointed, and would always endeavour to carry out what was required of him. The S.W. and J.W. followed; they thanked the W.M. for his kind remarks; they would always be ready to do their duty. The Tyler's toast was then given, and thus a most agreeable evening was passed. Bro. L. Herf P.M. and D.C. did all in his power to promote the comfort of the members and visitors. Among the latter were Bros. G. Gregory W.M. 1538, S. Brooks J.W. 1608, W. R. Lister S.W. 145, H. C. Joppes 749 G. H. Goodey J.W. 34

Daisey P.M. 141, Finch P.M. 173, T. Whaly 55, Hardley 1608, Burden 11, J. Innes 795, Cantle W.M. 1257, Dr. Forsyth 140, Parkinson 22, Jefferys, Iunes 1263, H. M. Levy P.M. 188, &c.

CHARITY LODGE, No. 223.

THE regular meeting of this Lodge was held on the 8th inst., at the Masonic Rooms, 193 Union-street, Plymouth, when, the usual business having been transacted, the brethren adjourned to Bro. Charles Walters', Farley Hotel, where the annual banquet was held, to celebrate the Festival of St. John the Evangelist. The W. Master Bro. Richard Blight presided, and he was supported by Bros. J. Lavers S.W., J. Moysey J.W., J. Cordish P.M. Treasurer, H. S. Hill I.P.M., W. Browning P.M. P.P.G.S.W. Secretary, J. M. Hildley P.M. P.P.G.A.D.C., J. P. Phillips P.M. P.P.G.D.C., J. B. Witheridge P.M. P.P.G.P., John Treeby P.M., J. T. Smith P.M., S. R. Anniss P.M., A. Wolf P.M. P.P.G.P., J. Dolve S.D., J. Leno J.D., J. Goodyear I.G., J. Martin Rowe, all of 223. Amongst the Visitors were—W. Bros. J. E. Curteis P.M. 186 P.P.G.S.W., I. Latimer P.M. 189 P.P.G.J.W., Samuel Jew P.M. 105 P.P.G.T., J. B. Gover P.M. 70 P.P.G.A.D.C., H. Welch P.M. and W.M. 202 P.P.G.P., John James P.M. 105, C. Cooper P.M. 105, H. W. Thomas P.M. 70, J. Trethewy P.M., R. Marshall P.M. 202, G. Darke I.P.M., J. W. Collins P.M. 1136, Thomas Gibbons W.M. 954, C. R. Bardin S.S. 189, M. Zefertt, P. Hamley, J. Bartlett P.M. 156. About 65 were present. Bro. Isaac Latimer proposed "The health of His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales Most Worshipful Grand Master." He (Bro. Latimer) was reminded that he had been appointed Junior Warden of the Province in the same year that the Prince of Wales opened the Guildhall in Plymouth, and he had also had the pleasure of seeing him installed in London. All knew how popular the Prince of Wales had made himself to all classes, and how much during his reign Freemasonry had flourished, and that, notwithstanding the depression of trade, over £44,000 had been sent to the great Charities in London during the past year. Bro. Curteis proposed the Grand Officers, speaking highly of their well-known abilities. W. Bro. John Treeby, in proposing the health of the Prov. G. Master Lord Ebrington, stated his lordship's father was initiated in the Charity Lodge in 1845, and presided as Master of the Lodge in 1849. All who had the pleasure of witnessing the consecration which took place a day or two since were convinced that his lordship's reign would be a happy one. The W. Master's health, proposed in glowing terms by Bro. H. S. Hill, was responded to by Bro. Blight. He advocated the cause of the various Charities, saying it would be his desire that Charity Lodge should always do in the future as it had in the past, and be known for practising as well as by the name of their time-honoured Lodge. During the evening a very massive and handsome Past Master's jewel was presented to the retiring Master, engraved as follows:—"Presented to W. Bro. H. S. Hill I.P.M. by the members of Lodge Charity, No. 223, as a token of their fraternal esteem. 8th January 1880." Bro. Hill returned thanks in suitable language. The important question of the year had been whether the Lodge should join the Brunswick Lodge, but they had decided—and he thought wisely—that they would not be a peripatetic Lodge, but would prefer to remain in Plymouth. He had travelled about a thousand miles during the past year to attend his Lodge, and had been amply rewarded. Other toasts followed, and a very happy and instructive evening was spent. Bro. and Mrs. Walters were especially thanked for their admirable catering.

YORK LODGE, No. 236.

THE brethren of this Lodge celebrated the Festival of St. John the Evangelist by dining together at the Masonic Hall, York, on Wednesday evening, 7th instant. The W.M. Bro. W. H. Gainforth presided, and was supported by Bros. J. P. Bell P.G.D. Eng. Dep. Prov. Grand Master, A. Buckle I.P.M. 236, J. Hanly I.P.M. 295 I.C., T. J. Wilkinson I.P.M. 1416, T. B. Whytehead P.M. P.P.G.D.C., J. Todd P.M. P.P.G.R., M. Rooke S.W., J. S. Rymer J.W., G. Kirby Sec., and about twenty other officers and brethren. An excellent dinner was served up by Bro. J. Toes, to which ample justice was done. In replying to the toast of the Grand Lodge of England, the D.P.G.M. took a retrospect of Masonry as it existed in York a century ago, when three Lodges were in existence, the Apollo, the Grand Lodge of All England, and the Union Lodge (now the York Lodge), and related many interesting particulars respecting their working. He then touched upon the motion of Bro. Stevens in Grand Lodge, and expressed an opinion that it was calculated to do good, and that a revision of the ritual in many quarters was desirable. In replying to the toast of the Prov. Grand Lodge of North and East Yorkshire, Dr. Bell spoke of the progress of Masonry in the district, and hoped that he should meet many of the brethren at Middlesbro' on the 21st instant, when the Ferrum Lodge, No. 1848, would be consecrated. Bro. J. Hanly (4th Dragoon Guards) responded in a neat speech to the Army and Navy, alluding to the hospitality which he had experienced from the Masons of York. "The Masonic Charities" were proposed by the Treasurer, Bro. J. Todd P.M., who alluded to the coming Benevolent Festival, when the Earl of Zetland would preside, and expressed a hope that the Province would be well represented. Bro. T. B. Whytehead proposed the Visitors, and spoke of the hospitality of the Lodges in York a century ago, as proved by the number of visitors recorded in their minute books. He also said that he was thoroughly with Bro. Stevens in wishing to see a suppression of certain foolish excrescences which had grown upon the orthodox ritual in certain Lodges, and he thought Bro. Stevens had adopted the most straightforward and commonsense plan of going to the fountain head in the first instance, and claiming the aid of the Grand Lodge in the matter. The toast list was soon afterwards concluded, when the brethren were regaled with songs, &c., by Bros. G. Kirby, J. Todd, T. G. Hodgson, and others. During the progress of the banquet, the silver loving cup of the Lodge was handed round, and prosperity to the York Lodge 236 was drank by the assembled brethren.

BEDFORD LODGE, No. 282.

THE Festival of St. John was celebrated by the brethren of this Lodge, at Tavistock, on Wednesday, 7th inst., when there was a numerous attendance. Bro. W. R. Northway jun., the W.M. elect, was duly installed by the W.M. Bro. T. L. Knight, assisted by P.M. Bro. Chapman. The W.M. invested his Officers for the ensuing year as follows:—T. L. Knight I.P.M., H. Down S.W., P. K. Harrison J.W., J. J. Daw Treasurer, W. L. Sampson Secretary, N. Bray S.D., R. B. Woolcock J.D., Isaac Roskilly D.C., John Bowhay Organist, — Uren I.G., Barrett S.S., H. Strike J.S., E. Hendy Tyler. After the ceremony the brethren adjourned to the Bedford Hotel, where they partook of the customary banquet.

TRUE AND FAITHFUL LODGE, No. 318.

THE brethren of this Lodge, met at the Masonic Rooms, Helston, on Wednesday, 7th inst., at two o'clock, for the purpose of installing their W.M. elect, Bro. Walter Wearne. There was a candidate for initiation who, on being accepted by ballot, was duly admitted into the mysteries and privileges of ancient Freemasonry, W. Bro. R. Sedgman James W.M. in the chair. After which the installation of Bro. Wearne was ably and impressively performed by the retiring W.M. in the presence of the following board of Installed Masters, viz.:—W. Bros. T. Davey P.M. 318, J. Q. James P.M. 318 P.P.G.S., Thomas Taylor P.M. 318 P.P.S.G.D., H. Trembath P.M. 318 P.G.S., A. J. Grant P.M. 318 P.P.G.P., J. Jeffery jun. P.M. 318 P.A.G.P., and J. Wallace W.M. 75. The newly installed W.M. invested the following Officers for the ensuing year:—W. Bro. R. Sedgman James I.P.M., Bro. Josiah Rowe S.W., J. M. Pascoe J.W., W. Bro. Thomas Taylor P.P.S.G.D. Chaplain, W. Bro. T. N. Curry P.P.S.G.D. Treasurer, W. Bro. J. Q. James P.P.G.S. Secretary, J. H. Philp S.D., W. Ellis J.D., J. Willey Organist, W. E. Lukies I.G., Bros. W. Hudson, W. H. Eddy, R. Dunstan, and J. H. Willey Stewards, J. M. Richards D.C., J. D. Richards A.D.C., Richard James, Tyler, W. Bro. H. Trembath P.G.S. was elected Steward of the Cornwall Masonic Benevolent and Annuity Fund. The brethren afterwards adjourned to the Globe Hotel, where a banquet was served by Bro. John Ellis in his well-known style. The usual loyal and Masonic toasts were heartily drank, and a most enjoyable evening spent. The visiting brethren who joined in the banquet, were W. Bro. J. Wallace W.M. 75, W. Bro. W. H. Kinsman P.M. 121, Bro. Rogers S.W. 75, James Lovell jun. J.W. 121, Bro. Trebilcock, formerly a member of "True and Faithful," Bro. Edwards 1006, and Bro. J. Pascoe, of Lodge "Unity and Concord," Maryport, Queensland. Bro. Lovell and others enhanced the enjoyment of the evening with songs, &c. The lodge is prosperous and healthy in its tone.

CORNUBIAN LODGE, No. 450, HAYLE.

THE members celebrated St. John's Day on the 30th ultimo. For the first time in the history of this Lodge a Wesleyan minister was installed W.M. The Rev. George Kennedy, who has filled the office of J.W. during the past year, was the brother in question. The ceremony was very impressively performed by W. Bro. Gilbert B. Pearce P.M. in the presence of the following Worshipful Board of Installed Masters:—Bros. John Poole, John Rosewarne P.P.G.S., C. Ellis P.P.G.S.D., John P. Smith P.P.G.S.D., Dr. Mudge P.P.G.J.W., John Coombe P.P.G.S.D., G. H. Eustice P.P.G.S.B., Frank Harvey P.P.G.S. of Works, F. H. Pool P.P.G.S.B., J. G. Osborn, W. Hathnance, W. Husband, James Pool, George Stevens, H. J. Warren, G. Pearce, H. Trevithick, members of Cornubian Lodge; and J. Hocking 580, W. H. Kinsman 121, and H. S. Hill 223. The W.M. invested his Officers as follows:—Bros. W. H. Trevithick I.P.M., Bigglestone Spray S.W., Thos. Mills J.W., G. B. Pearce P.M. Chaplain, Frank Harvey P.M. Treasurer, J. P. Smith P.M. Secretary, W. J. Jordan D.C., Frank Vivian S.D., Capt. J. Woolcock J.D., Richard Hawkins I.G., J. Rogers Organist, J. Bazeley and R. Hoskin Stewards, and J. N. Bray Tyler. Wor. Bro. Coombe P.M. was re-elected Steward of Charities, the W.M. remarking that Bro. Coombe was never happier than when he was securing comforts to others. The statement of accounts presented showed that the receipts for the year were £150, and there was a balance in hand £17, after £20 had been paid on the new Lodge account, on which £135 still remains to be paid. The brethren subsequently celebrated the Festival of St. John at a sumptuous banquet, served by Miss Oliver, White Hart Hotel, Worshipful Bro. the Rev. George Kennedy the newly-installed W.M. presiding. When dessert had been laid, the W.M., in felicitous terms, gave the Loyal toasts, speaking of the Grand Master, H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, as a whole-hearted Englishman, and an honoured Mason, and one to whom all looked up with loyal and respectful confidence. The health of the Pro G.M. the Earl of Carnarvon, was drank at the bidding of Wor. Bro. Husband. Wor. Bro. Harvey proposed the Prov. G.M. of Cornwall, and had the whole company heartily with him in describing the Earl of Mount Edgcumbe as a model Provincial Grand Master, governing the Provincial Grand Lodge with consummate tact, firmness and courtesy. Wor. Bro. Rosewarne gave the Deputy Prov. G.M. Col. Peard, and Wor. Bro. Hathnance the Prov. G.L. of Cornwall. To the latter toast Wor. Bro. John Hocking jun. P.P.G.J.W. responded, feeling sure that the working of their Prov. Grand Lodge was equal to that of any Province. This was due to the zeal and energy of the Prov. G.M., who had most wisely encouraged Lodges to provide halls of their own. The Prov. Grand Lodge was never numerically stronger, and its Charities never more liberally supported. Next came the toast of the evening, the W.M. of Cornubian, No. 450, and it was received most enthusiastically. It was heartily submitted by Wor. Bro. Pool, the senior P.M., who was pleased to say without hesitation that during his membership of thirty years no one had filled the Master's chair in a manner more worthy of esteem, respect, and confidence than its present occupant.

Wor. Bro. the Rev. G. Kennedy rising said: I am pretty well accustomed to public speaking, as you know, and contrive, as a rule, to be at home when on my legs. But for once I feel that your excess of courtesy and kindness has almost taken from me the power of adequately addressing you. My position to-day is somewhat singular. I am, I believe, the first minister of our religious body who has occupied a Masonic chair in the British dominions. I need make no apology to the Church with which I am associated, nor to society at large for occupying this position. I regard myself as being a kind of pioneer, and feel assured that when Masonry is better understood, the unnatural and untrue distinction which at present exists in some men's minds between it and religion will be swept away as something out of place and decidedly in the road of human progress. It would be mere affectation to say I am not proud of the position. To be Master of a Masonic Lodge is an honour which any true-hearted man may covet. But to be Master of such a Lodge as the Cornubian, one of the foremost in the West of England, is a distinction which falls to the lot of only a favoured few. Rest assured that I am not insensible of the honour which you have this day done me. I am no candidate for fancy degrees in Masonry, and am inclined to regard them as to some extent rather violating the spirit of genuine brotherhood and equality; but should it ever be my fortune to possess the adornments of even the highest grades in our Order, I will never esteem them so highly as I do the Master's symbol which you have hung around my neck. I take the chair of this Lodge under several very favourable circumstances. I cannot forget, dear brethren, the spontaneity of your action in electing me. I came among you a total stranger as it were, but yesterday, and you have accorded to me the highest honour it is in your power to give. I could not, of course, in honour, promote my own election, and you did not expect me to stoop to unworthy cringing or canvassing to secure the Master's Office; the brethren will bear me witness that neither by word or hint have I paved the way to my own exaltation. Another very happy circumstance is the unanimity of the vote which has placed me at your head. Unfortunately, sometimes there is a divided vote, which I have known to rend a Lodge in twain, and leave behind it legacies of heart-burning and jealousy, which made harmony impracticable for years. I hold my place to-day without one adverse vote, a circumstance in which I heartily rejoice. I am happy also in the recollection of your financial condition. You are more than solvent, having not only paid all current expenses for the year, but reduced the outstanding debt upon our premises. To keep our finances in a healthy condition; to secure a continuance of perfect harmony in the Lodge; to maintain its honour unsullied and its usefulness undiminished, will be the object of my constant care, during the year of my incumbency. I cannot forget that as Masons we are associated with an institution possessing and exhibiting singular vitality. It reaches, we know, far back into the hoary past; and is venerable with age and antiquity. It comes to us, not with the flash of untamed novelty, but with the adjuncts of history, experience, strength, and fruitfulness. Many institutions which sprang up side by side with Masonry have been weighed in the balance of human want, and, being found wanting, have been swept aside in the progress of ages. They were not bound up, in any vital sense, with the life and interests of humanity. But Freemasonry, with its eye undimmed, and its natural strength unabated, shows no sign of failing energy. On the contrary, it bids fair to live as long in the future as it has done in the past; an evidence of the soundness of its constitution. It may not be generally known that some twelve hundred Lodges have been chartered and consecrated within the past two and forty years. Now, I cannot but ask myself, to what is this vitality and progress owing? Certainly it is not to any ostentatious parade on our part. We do not boast, although we might, that our Order has numbered kings and princes by the hundred, and dukes and nobles by the thousand. We are not for ever publishing the fact that, from the middle and upper classes, we attract officers by tens of thousands, and we number faithful brethren all over the world by millions. We do not engage in the work of proselytising. Freemasonry has no missionaries, no propaganda; it wins men to it by its own inherent beauty and goodness—a fact which stimulates every Freemason to a life which shall illustrate and adorn his principles; and covers every unworthy member of our Craft with shame. It is only too true that for centuries many have joined the Order to satisfy what, I fear, was little better than an unworthy and prurient curiosity, and having done so, cease to be numbered with us. Nor can we forget that numbers of men bring a reproach upon us, by making Masonry synonymous with idleness, intemperance, and excess. Still Masonry survives and flourishes. Time, which annihilates so many things, spares it. While other institutions labour to be heard for their much speaking, and make music like that of the cuckoo, always repeating its own name, Masonry, like the lark behind a cloud, is content to sing unseen, so long as its voice gives greeting at the gate of heaven and falls with a gentle influence upon lonely hearts below. Brethren, Masonry owes its place and power to the principles upon which it rests. It has for its centre faith, truth, and honour; it has for its circumference virtue, purity, and charity. More particularly, it owes its position and influence to the true view which it cherishes of our human aspirations. It is in strict harmony with the perennial instincts of the human heart. Look where we will, humanity shows us one thing springing like hope within it eternally, the consciousness of, and the desire for, immortality. That there is for man another life when his present existence has run its course, Masonry proclaims with no uncertain voice. I regard this primary element in our organisation, this tenacious hold on immortality, as one of its highest and most helpful functions. Take away the conviction of an after-state, and you reduce man to the level of a soulless animal. Strike out of the common heart this conception, and you destroy all intelligent and operative distinction between vice and virtue! Practically, you abolish the very spring and reason of moral rectitude in man. Freemasonry is a power just in proportion as it tells us that while we seem to stumble over other men's graves until

at last we stumble into our own, above the emblems of mortality there is an immortal mansion, to which the pure in heart will at last ascend, and in which the just will find their reward. I trust the day will never come when, as Masons, we shall be ashamed of our loyalty to this great vital instinct of the human heart. Freemasonry is powerful also, because it gives a true answer to the deepest of all human needs. Looking at society, both in its natural and artificial aspects, we discover one great need, that is God. Every kind of existence has something which is essential to it. Find out that which conduces to its welfare, and you discover what belongs to it. Ascertain what destroys or injures it, and you may conclude that, whatever that may be, it does not belong to it. Now, brethren, if I look at society as a political economist, merely seeking to promote the greatest good of the greatest number; or, if I regard it merely as an artist, having respect to its symmetry and stability, I see no hope for humanity either actual or possible apart from God. You can throw no hand around men strong enough to knit them together, save that which unites them to God. Herein Masonry is again strong. It tells us that men are not poor voyagers over the sea of life with no hand at the helm of affairs, and no haven for which to steer. It gives the assurance that our prayers are not idle wails flung to the winds of heaven, but cries which evoke from the heart of the Infinite a quick and sure response. And in these days when the battle is set in array between faith and no faith; when, after ages of fencing, we have to face the naked issue—is there a God or is there not? shall we pray or shall we forbear?—this institution stands out in direct conflict with Atheism. When men missed those signs by which, from the beginning, the Great Architect of the Universe has announced his existence, and obliterate his handwriting upon the inner walls of our universal consciousness, Masonry takes its stand upon the dread brink of a universe denuded of God, and warns us back. Masonry does all its work beneath the sacred symbol, and its light would be quenched and the glory gone from its scutcheon did our Lodges cease to be to us from that hallowed association, Holy ground. Further, Masonry retains its place and power because it owns the only true and rational conception of human life. It recognizes the level of equality which runs through life; the level from which we all alike start. Below that level men may sink, and above it they may rise into rank and eminence. But, in essentials, Masonry contends for manhood, free and equal beneath the canopy of Heaven. It teaches us to see in every man a copy of ourselves, and we see in the race one's-self only multiplied by millions. The man, no matter in what land he first drew breath, or however mean his garb, who advances to a Mason the claim of a common nature is assured beforehand of a prompt and brotherly respect. In looking at it, Masonry takes into account the accidents and inequalities of life. We find human beings trampled down by many waysides, and stricken down upon many battle-fields with their lives overshadowed with sorrow and overburdened with misfortune. For these, our Order has a voice that cheers and a hand that helps, as witness our magnificent Schools for the orphan, standing side by side with charitable institutions for the aged, the widowed, and the poor. In addition to this, Masonry contemplates a coming unity when as Burns, himself a Mason, says,—

Man to man the world around,
Shall brothers be, and a' that.

As faithful Craftsmen we play our part in bringing about this welcome consummation, but how? Not by framing a world-wide political programme, or hurling Governments from power, nor by formulating a world-wide religious system. In order to blend the race into oneness, Masonry confronts the world with this for its motto everywhere, the common Fatherhood of God above, and the common Brotherhood of Man below. It is because our Order cherishes these views of life that the world pays it reverence and concedes to it its place and power. There are two standing popular objections to Freemasonry. From time immemorial it has been objected to on the score of mystery, and of its symbolism. Upon these grounds, and specially the first, superstition has decried our mystic art, and ecclesiastical stupidity has risen in wrath to launch its thunders against us; while the popular mind has judged us with suspicion and disfavour. Now, we frankly admit that our institution has its mysteries, what then? Is Masonry alone in this respect? Can we go anywhere without verging upon the region of mystery? Is not our life hemmed in with it on every side? Nature has her mysteries, only told to those in harmony with herself. Knowledge has its mysteries, only yielded up to patient study. Science has its mysteries, jealously guarded from any but the most reverent inquirer. Why should not Freemasonry also have its mysteries, kept under wise guardianship from idle and prying eyes? We keep our mysteries under seal only from him who exhibits neither the will nor the worthiness to know them. We use them to inspire that teachability and respect for those who are wiser than ourselves, which it is the purpose of all genuine education to impart. Again, Masonry in its symbolism is equally far from being singular. The language of signs enters very freely into human life. Royalty has its symbolism, with which to impress the common mind. Law has its pageantry, and chivalry its endless devices. Scholarship proclaims itself in hood and degree, and religion itself clings fondly to its symbols. Every corporation has its seal; every city its coat of arms; and every branch of industry its distinctive badge. Nay, the universe itself shows us but glorious symbols of Him who piled it in beauty, strength, and wisdom. Our imputed love of what is fantastic and showy in attire is but an illustration to the public eye of what we may not communicate to the uninitiated public ear. In conclusion, brethren, I cherish an ambition, a conviction, and a purpose. My ambition is to make the year before us at least equal to all that have preceded it, for efficient, harmonious, and fruitful Masonic work. My conviction is, that should divisions arise among us, the same votes which placed me in the chair will sustain me in it, provided that my ruling is for the wisest ends, and in accord with our Constitutions. My purpose is, if possible, so to bear myself as your Master, at all times and in all things, that I shall when my term of office expires, lay down the symbol of my authority

untarnished by one unwise word, or one unworthy act of mine. When the W.M. had resumed his seat, the applause was loud and long continued.

W. Bro. Mudge, in very hearty fashion, proposed "The Visitors," and W. Bros. J. Hocking jun., W. H. Kinsman I.P.M. 121, Penzance; H. S. Hill I.P.M. 223, and J. Lovell jun. Prov. G.O. responded, "The I.P.M." was rapturously applauded, and W. Bro. Trevithick warmly recognised valued assistance received from the Past Masters. "The I.M." was also given with well-deserved eulogy on the manner in which W. Bro. Gilbert Pearce performed the installation ceremony. Other toasts followed, and the W.M. made a graceful reference to the special brotherly courtesy he had received from the S.W., Bro. Bigglestone Spray, who had been content to stand aside that Bro. Kennedy might be exalted to the Mastership. A very pleasant evening was spent, Bro. Lovell contributing most efficiently to the harmony.

BRECKNOCK LODGE, No. 651.

ON Friday, the 9th January, the installation meeting of this Lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Castle Hotel, Brecon. Bro. Marmaduke Tennant, the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, performed the installation ceremony, in his customary impressive style. The following are the W.M. and Officers for the present year:—Bros. Frank Grundy W.M., J. A. Whittle S.W., W. Webb J.W., W. Howell Chaplain, T. H. Price Treasurer, H. O. A. Maybery Sec. and Almoner, E. H. Teale Asst. Sec., John Morgan S.D., Rhys Davies J.D., T. L. Lewis Organist, T. C. Bargrave Watkins I.G., Adam Orlopp and E. T. Edwards Stewards. After the Lodge had been closed, the brethren sat down to a banquet, and an enjoyable evening was spent.

SHIRLEY LODGE, No. 1112.

THE ceremony of installing Bro. John Parkinson, the Senior Warden of the Shirley Lodge for the past, as its Worshipful Master for the current year, took place at the Shirley Masonic Hall on Monday, 5th instant, in the presence of a numerous attendance of the brethren, the Deputy Grand Master of the Province, Bro. W. Hickman, officiating in his customary able manner. At the conclusion the Deputy Grand Master, on behalf of the Lodge, presented the retiring W.M., Bro. F. H. McCalmont Past Prov. Grand Reg. of Oxon, with a gold Past Master's jewel, in recognition of the zeal and ability with which he had conducted the affairs of the Lodge during the year—a compliment which Bro. McCalmont feelingly acknowledged. The W.M. then proceeded to invest his Officers for the year as follows:—Bros. C. Crew S.W. and Treasurer (re-elected), Capt. Brookes J.W., J. T. Fletcher Secretary, Mayoss S.D., J. D. Sharp J.D., Rolfe Organist, Mortimer I.G., Walker P.M. D.C., Vere Tyler. Thanks were tendered to the retiring Master for his services during the year, and to the Deputy Prov. Grand Master for his efficient rendering of the installation ceremony: and the Lodge separated, after a series of propositions which gave excellent promise of the year proving a successful one.

FINSBURY PARK LODGE, No. 1288.

THE annual installation meeting was held at the Cock Tavern, Highbury, on the first of the new year. Lodge opened at 4.30 with the following Officers:—Bros. J. W. Simmonds W.M., T. Rothschild W.M. elect, and a goodly attendance of members. Visitors—W. S. Hunter P.M. 1677, A. Thomas P.M. 1446, G. Blackmore 65, L. Solomons 1732, H. Parsons 175, S. Rushton 1677, H. Hollis 167, R. T. Cummings 1677, W. J. Upton 1677, A. Kent 1425, J. R. Stacey P.M. 180 and 1141, B. Jackson 1677, W. B. Tuck 1366, T. Silvester 193, J. H. Southwood P.M. 1260, W. F. Green 861, G. S. Elliott P.M. 1623, T. Butt 907, James Bellamy 1625, T. Walton P.M. 157, C. Hutchison 1635. After ordinary Lodge business, the installation ceremony was proceeded with, in a most impressive and able manner by Bro. Stacey P.M., who, notwithstanding the inconvenience of a small Lodge room, absolutely rivetted the attention of the brethren, who evidently appreciated in a high degree the ceremony. After the installation, the Officers were invested as follows:—Bros. Lord S.W., Piggott J.W., Price P.M. Treasurer, Goode P.M. Secretary, Hill S.D., Rest J.D., Wood I.G., Davis P.M. D.C., Meekham W.S., Upward Organist, Very Tyler. During the evening the Royal Warrant was read, giving permission for wearing Masonic clothing at the United Ball, which has already been referred to by us, but which we may again state will be held on Wednesday, 4th February. Lodge was then closed. An enticing banquet followed; a capital menu was supplied, and a good room was provided, with adequate attendance; in fact, everything tending to tempt the weakest stomach, or gratify the most vigorous operator with the knife and fork. Wine of exquisite vintage flowed freely, and if any brother went away dissatisfied it could not be the fault of those who had to minister to the wants of the guests. The speeches and responses from the W.M., the Past Masters, Officers, and Visitors were most gratifying. The music, songs, &c., were excellent, and devoid of offence to the most fastidious, indicating careful selection on the part of those who contributed to the evening's enjoyment.

ALBERT EDWARD LODGE, No. 1780.

THE first regular Lodge meeting held in the Southampton New Masonic Hall took place on Tuesday, 6th inst., in connection with the installation of the W.M. of this Lodge. Advantage was taken of the occasion to mark the labours of the Dep. Prov. Grand

Master of the Province, in promoting the establishment of the Lodge and presiding over it for its first year, by a portrait in oil, which has been hung on the walls of the Lodge, and forms a most suitable addition to a number of other portraits similar in form and style, some of which have now become Masonically historical. The first to be mentioned in point of age is a portrait of Lord Montagu, the W.M. of the Lodge of Concord, which became defunct about half a century since, but whose name is locally perpetuated by the Chapter of Concord, a comparatively modern offshoot from the Royal Gloucester Chapter. Some other prominent portraits are those of three Provincial Grand Masters of Hampshire—that of Sir William de Crespigny P.G.M. 1819, Mr. Penleaze, a member for the borough of Southampton, P.G.M. 1832, and Admiral Sir Lucius Curtis D.P.G.M. 1832, P.G.M. 1840, whom many living Masons well remember. Hung opposite to these three last-named portraits, which are on the east wall, and therefore behind and on each side the Master's chair, are portraits, also in oil, of the late Bro. C. E. Deacon D.P.G.M. 1843, and J. R. Stebbing D.P.G.M. 1859. These being hung on each side the S.W.'s chair needed only, to complete the set, the portrait unveiled on Tuesday, and hung immediately over the chair. It is an excellent likeness of the Dep. Prov. Grand Master, Bro. Hickman, three-quarter length, wearing the collar of a Past Grand Officer of England, with the jewel of Dep. Prov. Grand Master pendant—his Dep. Prov. Grand Master's apron and badge, and other Masonic clothing, appropriately making it a companion to the other oil portraits in the hall. To make the presentation on Tuesday, the Grand Master of the Province, Bro. W. W. B. Beach, M.P., courteously attended at Southampton. The Lodge having been duly opened, and five candidates initiated by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master, as retiring Master of the Lodge, Bro. Beach, in the name of the Lodge, presented the portrait to Bro. Hickman, in a speech most appropriate to the occasion, full of fraternal spirit and of marked regard for the presentee, to whose Masonic career and industry Bro. Beach bore kindly testimony, the portrait at the close of his address being unveiled amidst the general and hearty plaudits of a very full Lodge, embracing nearly 20 Past Masters in the Craft, many of them wearing Provincial Grand Lodge clothing. Bro. Hickman, in reply, expressed his inability sufficiently to express his thanks to the brethren for this mark of their approval and regard, passed on to bear high testimony to the fraternal feeling which had marked the conduct and administration of the Lodge since its establishment, and concluded by expressing his personal thanks to Bro. Biddlecombe, the artist, for his admirable and satisfactory picture. Subsequently, Bro. Sir Frederick Perkins, M.P., whose life-size oil portrait also hangs in the hall, in the name of the brethren, presented Bro. Hickman with the jewel of a Deputy Provincial Grand Master, remarking, in passing, that Bro. Hickman would be able to bear this testimony with him wherever he went of the fraternal feeling of those brethren with whom he had been associated, and himself bearing testimony, through many years' experience, to Bro. Hickman's worth as a Mason and a townsman. The Deputy Provincial Grand Master had no sooner acknowledged this presentation than Bro. Joseph Stevens, on behalf of the members initiated into the Lodge during its first year's existence, presented the retiring W.M. with a gold Past Master's jewel, the unexpected receipt of which he feelingly acknowledged. He subsequently asked the acceptance by the Lodge of a set of gavels for the use of the principal Officers, which was received with thanks, it being next resolved that a vote of thanks, tendered to him for his past year's services, should be engrossed on vellum and presented to him, bearing special reference to the day's proceedings, to be retained by the Deputy Provincial Grand Master. The new Master, Bro. Irvine Harle, having been duly installed, according to ancient custom, by his predecessor in the chair, appointed and invested the following as his Officers of the Lodge for the year:—Bros. James S. Pearce S.W., W. Berry J.W., S. S. Pearce Treasurer, W. Gringer Secretary, Geo. Grant S.D., Algar J.D., Goodwin Organist, Furner I.G., Scorey and J. Stevens Stewards, Biggs and Harrington Tylers. At a subsequent banquet, prepared by Bro. Gibbs, of Above Bar, the customary Masonic toasts were given.—*Portsmouth Times*.

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ADJOURNED QUARTERLY GENERAL COURT.

THE Governors and Subscribers of this Institution are requested to take notice that the Quarterly General Court, adjourned on Saturday, the 10th inst., will meet at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen Street, London, W.C., on Saturday, the 24th inst., at 12 o'clock noon precisely.

17th January 1880. F. R. W. HEDGES, Secretary.

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OF THIS INSTITUTION WILL TAKE PLACE ON

MONDAY, 9TH FEBRUARY 1880,

AT

FREEMASONS' TAVERN, GREAT QUEEN STREET, LONDON,

UPON WHICH OCCASION

The Right Hon. the EARL OF ZETLAND,

R.W. PROV. G.M. FOR NORTH AND EAST YORKSHIRE,

Has been pleased to signify his intention of presiding.

Brethren desirous of accepting the Office of Steward upon this occasion will greatly oblige by forwarding their Names and Masonic Rank as soon as convenient, to the Secretary, who will gladly give any information required.

JAMES TERRY, P. Prov. G.J.W. Herts,
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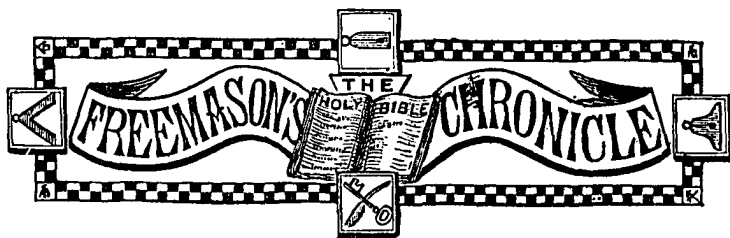
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APPOINTMENT OF GRAND SECRETARY.

H.R.H. the Prince of Wales, Most Worshipful Grand Master, has been pleased to appoint Lieut.-Col. Shadwell H. Clerke to fill the vacant position of Secretary to the Grand Lodge of England. A special meeting of Grand Lodge will be held this (Saturday) evening, at Freemasons' Hall, for the purpose of formally investing Bro. Clerke with the insignia of office.

QUARTERLY MEETING OF THE BOYS' SCHOOL.

THE January Quarterly Meeting of the Governors and Subscribers of the Royal Masonic Institution for Boys was held in the Board Room, Freemasons' Hall, on Monday. There were present Bros. Col. Creton (in the chair), S. Rawson, Donald M. Dewar, William Roebuck, Rev. A. F. A. Woodford, Frederick Adlard, Arthur E. Gladwell, R. Warner Wheeler, W. H. Perryman, W. H. Hamann, Thomas Meggy, and F. Binckes Secretary. After reading and confirmation of the minutes, the Meeting declared eighty candidates and twenty vacancies for the April election. Bro. Binckes then read the correspondence which had taken place with regard to Bro. S. B. Wilson's claim against the Institution for professional services, and a long discussion ensued on the point. It was, however, ultimately arranged that the matter should be further considered by the House Committee for which purpose, a motion referring it to those brethren was proposed by Bro. Woodford, seconded by Bro. R. Warner Wheeler, and carried. A vote of thanks to the Chairman closed the proceedings.

MEETING OF THE BENEVOLENT INSTITUTION.

THE monthly meeting of the Committee of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution was held on Wednesday, at Freemasons' Hall. There were present Bros. Col. Creton (in the chair), W. Hale, C. A. Cottebrune, R. Warner Wheeler, J. A. Farnfield, J. M. Case, James Brett, John G. Stevens, R. H. Giraud, Louis Stean, Jabez Hogg, John Henry Leggott, Henry G. Warren, W. Hilton, Thomas Cubitt, Charles John Perceval, Raynham W. Stewart, S. Rawson, J. Newton, William Stephens, C. G. Dilley, Erasmus Wilson, Edgar Bowyer, Henry Strong M.D. Hon. Surgeon, Thos. J. Barnes, Charles Frederick Hogard, and James Terry (Secretary), who, after the reading and confirmation of the minutes, announced the death of three female annuitants. The Warden's report was then submitted, and Bro. Terry informed the brethren that the Supreme Council 33° had presented the library of the Institution at Croydon with 130 volumes of the works of Dickens, Lytton, Lever, &c., and Bro. Cutbush had sent a hamper of bulbs. Votes of thanks to these donors were passed for their gifts. Thirteen petitioners were afterwards placed on the list. Bro. Leggott's motion to build a board room and chapel at the south end of the Institution was not seconded, and consequently dropped. He withdrew his motion to build an infirmary, and moved that the board room be used as a reading room and library for the inmates of the Institution. Bro. Warner Wheeler seconded the motion, which was opposed by Bros. Farnfield and Raynham Stewart. Bro. Perceval hoped the board room would soon be enlarged, as there was not room in it for the half-yearly entertainments given to the old people. Dr. Strong, from a daily acquaintance with the annuitants, was able to say that they preferred reading in their own rooms, and he did not think they would be induced to use such a cold room as the board room. He agreed with Bro. Perceval that it would be an advantage to have the room enlarged. The motion was lost. On the motion of Bro. Farnfield, seconded by Bro. Stewart, a vote of congratulation to Bro. Norris, the Warden, on his attainment of the ninetieth year of his age on the 21st inst., was passed, and ordered to be transmitted to him; and on the motion of Bro. John Stevens, seconded by Bro. Bowyer, a vote of thanks was also passed to Bro. Terry for having, through his zealous energy, raised the receipts last year to more than £17,000. Bro. Terry acknowledged the vote, and assured the brethren of his desire to be, if possible, of still greater benefit to the Institution. A vote of thanks to the Chairman concluded the business of the day.

The remarks we published in our issue of the 3rd inst., when reviewing the result of last year's work in connection with the three Masonic Institutions appear to be open to misapprehension. We then stated that the Girls' School was the only Institution whose total receipts for 1879 showed a diminution as compared with 1878, and quoted the actual figures of the two years in support of our statement. It has been pointed out that by so doing we may lead brethren to suppose that the actual donations to the Charity are falling off, which is not really the case, for if we take out of 1878 the Special Grant of £500 stock from Grand Lodge, and which is looked upon more as a transfer to the Stock Account of the Girls' School, we find that 1879 really produced something near £160 in excess of its predecessor. In justice to Bro. Hedges, whose labours as Secretary have resulted in an actual increase in the amount collected from the brethren, we think we are right in pointing out what to some may appear like a falling off as the result of his labours.

LONDON COTTAGE MISSION.

THE waifs and strays of Limehouse, Ratcliff, Shadwell and Stepney, who had been invited by ticket, again presented themselves yesterday at noon, in large numbers, at the entrance of the London Cottage Mission Hall, Conder-street, Limehouse, to the Irish stew feast. This makes the 95th week of dinners given. The poor children, being piteously hungry, cried for food. Unfortunately the milder weather does not fill their stomachs, and this benevolence is in as great demand as ever. The premises were besieged, and the earnest rush was melting in the extreme. Like everything else, this work of charity cannot be continued without money, and we are sorry to learn that the Mission which has vigorously and untiringly fed now over 20,000 of the starving poor, will have to conclude its work of charity unless its funds are at once increased. The last pound has gone, and if each of our readers would only send a trifle, many more thousand little mouths, which know of no meal from week's end to week's end but dry bread and water, will have the intense joy of participating in many more Irish stew banquets—such indeed it is to them. We sincerely hope that the London Cottage Mission and its able founder and staff, who are carrying out so good an evangelistic, philanthropic, and benevolent work, will be encouraged by the liberal and timely help of a benevolent and sympathising public, who will send their free-will offerings to Miss F. Napton, 304 Bardett-road, Limehouse, E., and Mr. Walter Austin, 14 Finsbury-circus, E.C.

FREEMASONS' CALENDAR and POCKET-BOOK, containing a complete list of all the regular Lodges and Royal Arch Chapters, with their places and times of meeting. Published for the benefit of the Charity Fund, under the sanction of the United Grand Lodge of England. May be had from W. W. Morgan jun., FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE Office, 23 Great Queen-street, London, W.C. Price 2s, post free.

DIARY FOR THE WEEK.

We shall be obliged if the Secretaries of the various Lodges throughout the Kingdom will favour us with a list of their Days of Meeting, &c., as we have decided to insert only those that are verified by the Officers of the several Lodges.

SATURDAY, 17th JANUARY.

- 198—Percy, Jolly Farmers' Tavern, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1329—Sphinx, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 1364—Earl of Zetland, Old Town Hall, Mare-street, Hackney
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 1732—Kings Cross, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8

MONDAY, 19th JANUARY.

- 1—Grand Master's, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 45—Strong Man, New Market Hotel, West Smithfield, at 8 (Instruction)
 58—London Masonic Club Lodge of Instruction, 101 Queen Victoria-street, at 6
 174—Sincerity, Railway Tavern, London-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 180—St. James's Union, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 185—Tranquillity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 186—Industry, Bell, Carter-lane, Doctors-commons, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 548—Wellington, White Swan, High-street, Deptford, at 8 (Instruction)
 704—Camden, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
 720—Panmure, Balham Hotel, Balham.
 1306—St. John of Wapping, Gun Hotel, High-st., Wapping, at 8 (Instruction)
 1425—Hyde Park, The Westbourne, Craven-rd., Paddington, at 8 (Instruction)
 1445—Prince Leopold, Mitford Tavern, Sandringham-road, Dalston, at 8 (Inst.)
 1489—Marquess of Ripon, Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-rd., Hackney, at 7.30 (In.)
 1623—West Smithfield, New Market Hotel, King-st., Snow-hill, at 8 (Inst.)
 1625—Tredgar, Royal Hotel, Mile End-road, corner of Burdett-road (Inst.)
 M. M.—Old Kent, Trocadero, Broad Street Buildings, E.C. at 6.30 (Instruction)
 77—Freedom, Clarendon Hotel, Gravesend
 236—York, Masonic Hall, York
 931—Phoenix of Honour and Prudence, Public Rooms, Truro.
 359—Peace and Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Southampton.
 382—Royal Union, Belmont Hall, Uxbridge
 424—Borough, Half Moon Hotel, Gateshead.
 466—Merit, George Hotel, Stamford Baron, Northampton.
 622—St. Cuthbert, Masonic Hall, Wimborne.
 725—Stoneleigh, King's Arms Hotel, Kenilworth.
 820—Lily of Richmond, Greyhound, Richmond, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 925—Bedford Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
 934—Merit, Derby Hotel, Whitefield.
 985—Alexandra, Masonic Hall, Holbeach.
 1030—Egerton, George Hotel, Wellington Road, Heaton Norris, near Stockport.
 1037—Portland, Portland Hall, Portland.
 1141—Mid Sussex, Assembly Rooms, Horsham.
 1170—St. George, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1199—Agriculture, Honey Hall, Congressbury.
 1208—Corinthian, Royal Hotel, Pier, Dover.
 1449—Royal Military, Masonic Hall, Canterbury, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1502—Israel, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R. A. 32—Jerusalem, Adelphi Hotel, Liverpool
 R. A. 139—Paradise, Freemasons' Hall, Surrey-street, Sheffield.
 R. A. 210—Faith, Bowling Green Hotel, Denton.
 K. T.—Prince of Peace, Bull Hotel, Preston.

TUESDAY, 20th JANUARY.

- Board of General Purposes, Freemasons' Hall, at 4.
 30—United Mariners, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 55—Constitutional, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-bldgs., Holborn, at 7 (Inst.)
 65—Prosperity, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 73—Mount Lebanon, Bridge House Hotel, Southwark.
 95—Eastern Star, Ship and Turtle, Leadenhall-street, E.C.
 141—Faith, 2 Westminster Chambers, Victoria-street, S.W., at 8 (Inst.)
 177—Domestic, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 554—Yarborough, Green Dragon, Stepney (Instruction)
 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
 860—Dalhousie, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)
 1044—Wandsworth, Star and Garter Hotel, St. Ann's-hill, Wandsworth (Inst.)
 1349—Friars, Liverpool Arms, Canning Town, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1360—Royal Arthur, Prince's Head, Battersea Park, at 8 (Instruction)
 1420—Earl Spencer, Swan Hotel, Battersea Old Bridge, S.W.
 1446—Mount Edgecumbe, 19 Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1471—Islington, Three Bucks, 23 Gresham-street, E.C., at 7 (Instruction)
 1472—Henley, Three Crowns, North Woolwich, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1507—Metropolitan, Moorgate Station Restaurant, Moorgate-st., at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1558—D. Connaught, Palmerston Arms, Grosvenor Park, Camberwell, at 8 (In.)
 1602—Sir Hugh Myddelton, Crown and Woolpack, St. John's-st.-rd., at 8 (In.)
 1707—Eleanor, Trocadero, Broad-street-buildings, Liverpool-street, 6.30 (Inst)
 R. A. 1365—Clapton, White Hart Tavern, Clapton, at 8. (Instruction.)
 Metropolitan Chapter of Improvement, Jamaica Coffee House, Cornhill, 6.30.
 117—Wynnstay, Raven Hotel, Shrewsbury, at 8 (Instruction)
 213—Perseverance, Masonic Hall, Theatre-street, Norwich.
 241—Merchants, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 6.30 (Instruction)
 248—True Love and Unity, Freemasons' Hall, Brixham, Devon.
 384—St. David, Masonic Rooms, Bangor.
 414—Union, Masonic Hall, Reading
 418—Menturia, Mechanics' Institute, Hanley.
 468—Light, Great Western Hotel, Birmingham
 667—Alliance, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 880—Bute, Masonic Hall, 9 Working-street, Cardiff
 1006—Tregulow, Masonic Rooms, St. Day, Scorrier, Cornwall.
 1052—Callender, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester.
 1099—De Shurland, Fountain Hotel, Sheerness.
 1113—Anglesea, Bull Hotel, Llangefni
 1276—Warren, Stanley Arms Hotel, Seacombe, Cheshire.
 1325—Stanley, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 1427—Percy, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle.
 1470—Chiltern, Town Hall, Dunstable.
 1473—Bootle, 146 Berry-street, Bootle, at 6. (Instruction.)
 1534—Concord, George Hotel, Prestwich.
 1551—Charity, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham.
 1670—Prince Arthur, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool.
 1764—Eleanor Cross, Masonic Hall, Abington-street, Northampton.
 R. A. 268—Union, Queen's Arms Inn, Ashton-under-Lyne.
 R. A. 829—High Cross, Bull Inn, Dartford.
 R. A. 1174—Pentangle, Sun Hotel, Chatham

WEDNESDAY, 21st JANUARY.

- Lodge of Benevolence, Freemasons' Hall, W.C. at 6.
 General Committee, Grand Chapter, Freemasons' Hall, at 3
 Grand Stewards, Freemasons' Hall, W.C.
 174—Sincerity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 193—Confidence, Railway Tavern, London-street, at 7 (Instruction)
 201—Jordan, Devonshire Arms, Devonshire-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 228—United Strength, Hope and Anchor, Crowndale-rd., Camden-town, 8 (In.)
 539—La Tolerance, Green Dragon, 2 Maddox-street, W., at 7.45 (Inst.)
 781—Merchant Navy, Silver Tavern, Burdett-road, E. (Inst.)
 813—New Concord, Jolly Farmers, Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 862—Whittington, Red Lion, Poppin's-court, Fleet-street, at 8 (Instruction)
 1185—Lewis, King's Arms Hotel, Wood Green, at 7 (Instruction)
 1278—Burdett Courts, Salmon and Ball, Bethnal Green-road, at 8 (Inst.)
 1288—Finsbury Park, Earl Russell, Isledon-road, Holloway, at 8 (Instruction)
 1507—Metropolitan, Anderton's Hotel, Fleet-street, E.C.
 1524—Duke of Connaught, Havelock, Albion Road, Dalston, at 8 (Instruction)

- 1673—Langton, London Masonic Club, 101 Queen Victoria-street, E.C.
 R. A. 177—Domestic, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-st., at 8 (Instruction)

- 20—Royal Kent of Antiquity, Sun Hotel, Chatham
 36—Loyalty, Masonic Hall, Prescott, Lancashire
 131—Mount Sinai, Public-buildings, Penzance
 140—St. George, Trafalgar Tavern, Greenwich
 175—East Medina, Masonic Hall, John-street, Ryde, I.W.
 200—Old Globe, Private Rooms, Globe-street, Scarborough
 221—St. John, Commercial Hotel, Town Hall Square, Bolton
 258—Amphibious, Freemasons' Hall, Heckmondwike
 277—Friendship, Freemasons' Hall, Union-street, Oldham
 325—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 330—Integrity, Masonic Temple, Commercial-street, Morley, near Leeds
 423—Sincerity, Angel Inn, Northwich, Cheshire
 451—Sutherland, Town Hall, Burslem
 537—Zetland, 55 Argyle-street, Birkenhead
 580—Harmony, Wheat Sheaf, Ormskirk
 581—Faith, Drover's Inn, Openshaw
 592—Cotteswold, King's Head Hotel, Cirencester
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7 (Instruction)
 633—Yarborough, Freemasons' Hall, Manchester
 673—St. John, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
 683—Isca, Freemasons' Hall, Dock-street, Newport, Monmouthshire
 755—St. Tudno, Freemasons' Hall, Llandudno
 758—Ellesmere, Masonic Hall, Runcorn
 823—Everton, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 874—Holmesdale, Royal Sussex Hotel, Tunbridge Wells
 910—St. Oswald, Masonic Hall, Ropergate, Pontefract
 938—Grosvenor, Masonic Hall, New-street, Birmingham
 969—Sun and Sector, Assembly Rooms, Workington
 972—St. Augustine, Masonic Hall, Canterbury
 1019—Sincerity, Freemasons' Hall, Zetland-street, Wakefield
 1040—Sykes, Masonic Hall, Driffield, Yorks
 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 1129—St. Chad, Roebuck Hotel, Rochdale
 1161—De Grey and Ripon, Denmark Hotel, Lloyd-street, Greenheys, Manchester
 1164—Eliot, Private Rooms, St. Germain's, Cornwall
 1206—Cinqus Ports, Bell Hotel, Sandwich
 1218—Prince Alfred, Commercial Hotel, Mossley, near Manchester
 1246—Holte, Holte Hotel, Aston
 1301—Brighthouse, Masonic Room, Bradford-road, Brighthouse
 1337—Anchor, Masonic Rooms, Durham House, Northallerton
 1353—Duke of Lancaster, Athenæum, Lancaster
 1356—De Grey and Ripon, 140 North Hill-street, Liverpool, at 7.30 (Inst.)
 1443—Salem, Town Hall, Dawlish, Devon
 1479—Halsey, Town Hall, St. Albans
 1511—Alexandra, Hornsea, Hull
 1634—Starkie, Railway Hotel, Ramsbottom
 R. A. 240—St. Hilda, Freemasons' Hall, Fowler-street, South Shields
 M. M. 135—Hotspur, Freemasons' Hall, Clayport-street, Alnwick

THURSDAY, 22nd JANUARY.

- House Committee Girls' School, at 4.
 3—Fidelity, Yorkshire Grey, London-street, Fitzroy-sq., at 8 (Instruction)
 15—Kent, Chequers, Marsh-street, Walthamstow, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 27—Egyptian, Hercules Tavern, Leadenhall-street, E.C., at 7.30 (Instruction)
 65—Prosperity, Guildhall Tavern, Gresham-street, E.C.
 87—Vitruvian, White Hart, College-street, Lambeth, at 8 (Instruction)
 99—Shakespeare, Albion Tavern, Aldersgate-street, E.C.
 211—St. Michael, Moorgate Station Restaurant, Moorgate Street, at 8 (Inst.)
 435—Salisbury, Union Tavern, Air-street, Regent-street, W., at 8 (Inst.)
 754—High Cross, Coach and Horses, Lower Tottenham, at 8 (Instruction)
 766—William Preston, City Terminus Hotel, Cannon-street, E.C.
 1227—Upton, King and Queen, Norton Folgate, E.C., at 8. (Instruction.)
 1420—The Great City, Masons Hall, Masons Avenue, E.C., at 6.30 (Inst.)
 1614—Covent Garden, Nag's Head, James-street, Covent Garden, at 7.45 (In.)
 1658—Skelmersdale, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, S.E.
 R. A. 753—Prince Frederick William, Lord's Hotel, St. John's Wood, at 8 (Inst.)
 R. A. 1471—North London, Jolly Farmers', Southgate-road, N., at 8 (Inst.)
 48—Industry, 31 Denmark-street, Gateshead. (Instruction)
 78—Imperial George, Ashteton Arms Hotel, Middleton, Lancashire
 100—Friendship, Crown and Anchor Hotel, Quay, Great Yarmouth
 116—Royal Lancashire, Swan Hotel, Colno
 203—Ancient Union, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 208—Three Grand Principles, Masonic Hall, Dewsbury
 214—Hope and Unity, White Hart Hotel, Brentwood, Essex
 275—Harmony, Masonic Hall, South Parade, Huddersfield
 283—Amity, Swan Hotel, Market-place, Haslingden
 337—Candour, Commercial Inn, Uppermill, Saddleworth
 344—Faith, Bull's Head Inn, Radcliffe, Lancashire
 349—St. John, Bull's Head Inn, Bradshawgate, Bolton
 594—Downshire, Masonic Hall, Liverpool.
 636—D'Ogle, Masonic Hall, Morpeth
 659—Blagdon, Ridley Arms Hotel, Blyth
 784—Wellington, Public Rooms, Park-street, Deal
 816—Royd, Spring Gardens Inn, Wardle, near Rochdale
 935—Harmony, Freemasons' Hall, Islington-square, Salford
 1325—Stanley, 214 Gt. Homer-street, Liverpool, at 8. (Instruction.)
 1459—Ashbury, Justice Birch Hotel, Hyde-road, West Gorton, near Manchester
 1505—Emulation, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 1576—Dee, Union Hotel, Parkgate, Cheshire
 1612—West Middlesex, Feathers Hotel, Ealing, at 7.30. (Instruction.)
 1626—Hotspur, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle
 R. A. 292—Liverpool, Masonic Hall, Liverpool
 R. A. 424—De Burgh, 31 Denmark-street, Gateshead.
 R. A. 1086—Walton, Skelmersdale Masonic Hall, Kirkdale, Liverpool
 K. T.—Plains of Mamre, Bull Hotel, Burnley

FRIDAY, 23rd JANUARY.

- House Committee Boys' School, at 4.
 Emulation Lodge of Improvement, Freemasons' Hall, at 7.
 25—Robert Burns, Union Tavern, Air-street, W., at 8 (Instruction)
 507—United Pilgrims, Surrey Masonic Hall, Camberwell, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 569—Fitzroy, Head Quarters, Hon. Artillery Company, City-road, E.C.
 766—William Preston, Feathers Tavern, Up. George-st., Edgware-rd. 8 (Inst.)
 834—Ranelagh, Six Bells, Hammersmith (Instruction)
 902—Burgoyne, Red Cap, Camden Town, at 8 (Instruction)
 933—Doric, Duke's Head, 79 Whitechapel-road, at 8 (Instruction)
 1056—Metropolitan, Portugal Hotel, 155 Fleet-street, E.C. at 7 (Instruction)
 1158—Belgrave, Jermyn-street, S.W., at 8 (Instruction)
 1288—Finsbury Park M.M., Earl Russell, Isledon-road, N. at 8 (Instruction)
 1298—Royal Standard, Alwyne Castle, St. Paul's-road, Canonbury, at 8 (In.)
 1365—Clapton, White Hart, Lower Clapton, at 7.30 (Instruction)
 1642—E. Carnarvon, Mitre Hotel, Goulborne-rd, N. Kensington, at 8.0 (Inst.)
 R. A. 79—Pythagorean, Portland Hotel, London-street, Greenwich, at 8 (Inst.)

- 780—Royal Alfred, Star and Garter, Kew Bridge, at 7.30 (Inst.)

- 1143—Royal Denbigh, Council Room, Denbigh
 1393—Hamer, Masonic Hall, Liverpool, at 8 (Instruction)
 1621—Castle, Crown Hotel, Bridgnorth
 1712—St. John, Freemasons' Hall, Grainger-street, Newcastle
 General Lodge of Instruction, Masonic Hall, New Street, Birmingham,
 R. A. 152—Virtue, Freemasons' Hall, Cooper-street, Manchester
 K. T. 20—Royal Kent, Masonic Hall, Maple-street, Newcastle

SATURDAY, 24th JANUARY.

- 193—Percy, Jolly Farmers, Southgate Road, N., at 8 (Instruction)
 1624—Eccleston, Grosvenor Club, Ebury-square, Pimlico, at 7 (Instruction)
 Sinai Chapter of Instruction, Union, Air-street, Regent-street, W. at 8
 140—Peace, Private Rooms, Meltham
 308—Prince George, Private Rooms, Bottoms, Eastwood

NOTICE OF MEETINGS.

Constitutional Lodge of Instruction, No. 55.—Held on Tuesday, 13th January, at Bro. Bond's, Bedford Hotel, Southampton-buildings, W.C. Present—Bros. Hallam sen. W.M., Dickens S.W., Abell J.W., John Soper Sec., T. B. Linscott S.D., Hallam jun. J.D., Bingemann Preceptor, Walter Dnedin I.G.; P.M.'s Gilruth, T. B. Dodson, and many other brethren. After due regard had been paid to requirements of custom, Bro. T. B. Dodson offered himself as a candidate for passing, answered the questions, and was entrusted. Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Dodson was passed to the degree of Fellow Craft. The following sections of the second lecture were worked:—First Bro. Dickens, second Abell, third Hallam jun., fourth Hallam sen. Bro. Dickens was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. Lodge was closed, and adjourned to Tuesday, the 20th January, at 7 p.m. On Tuesday, 10th February, the ceremony of installation will be rehearsed by Bro. T. Pownceby W.M. of Constitutional Lodge, No. 55.

Mount Lebanon Chapter, No. 73.—The regular Convocation of this Chapter was held on Thursday, 8th inst., at the Bridge House Hotel, Southwark. Comps. J. C. Mason M.E.Z., M. D. Loewenstark H., F. Walters P.Z. S.E. as J. and others opened the Chapter. The ballot proved unanimous in favour of the admission of Comp. J. B. Shackleton as a joining member. Comp. F. Walters, in his usual painstaking manner, installed Comp. A. J. Ireton as J. The bye-laws were read. The elections were unanimous in favour of Comps. Loewenstark as Z., A. J. Ireton H., J. B. Shackleton J., J. W. Baldwin P.Z. Treasurer (re-elected), F. Walters P.Z. S.E. (re-elected for 16th time), B. Isaacs S.N., W. K. Goodall P.S., C. T. Speight Jan. (re-elected). The usual P.Z.'s jewel was unanimously voted to Comp. J. C. Mason for services rendered to the Chapter during his year of office. The bye-laws were revised, some candidates were proposed for exaltation, the Chapter was closed and adjourned, to meet on Thursday 13th May, at four o'clock p.m. Banquet followed. The usual Loyal toasts were given and responded to. There were present besides those named Comps. J. T. Moss P.Z., &c., W. Pennefather, and others. Visitors—Bourne P.Z., W. A. Simmons 1275, C. G. Rushworth 1503, T. W. Adams 1623, &c.

Royal Alfred Lodge of Instruction, No. 780.—The usual weekly meetings were resumed at the Star and Garter Hotel, Kew Bridge, after the adjournment for the Christmas vacation, on Friday, 9th instant. Bros. Acworth W.M., Youens S.W., Gomm J.W., Blasby S.D., Innes J.D., Maton I.G., Roe P.M. Preceptor, C. E. Botley Hon. Sec. pro tem, F. Botley, Goss. M., Gellowski, Franckel, Metcalfe, and Wotton. The ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. F. Botley candidate. Bro. Maton answered the questions leading to the second degree and retired. The ceremony of passing was next rehearsed, Bro. Goss P.M. candidate. Lodge was advanced to the third, and then closed. Bro. E. Edward Gellowski, of the Mariners Lodge, Liverpool, was elected a member. Bro. Youens was elected W.M. for the next meeting, and a vote of thanks accorded to Bro. Acworth for his kindness in providing printed notices of the meeting. The Lodge was closed in due form and adjourned.

Dalhousie Lodge of Instruction, No. 860.—Held at Bro. Smyth's, Sisters' Tavern, Pownall-road, Dalston, on Tuesday, 13th Jan. Bro. Polak W.M., Christian S.W., Hand J.W., Clark S.D., Wardell J.D., Smyth I.G., J. Lorkin Sec., W. Wallington Preceptor; also Bros. Collins, Dallas, Williams, Brasted, Baker, C. Lorkin and Allen. The Lodge was opened and minutes of last meeting were read and confirmed, Bro. Baker was interrogated and intrusted. The Lodge was opened in the second degree and Bro. Baker was passed. The Lodge was closed in the second degree. Bros. Smyth, Clark and Hand assisted Bro. C. Lorkin to work the first, second and third sections of the lecture. Bro. Christian was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. The Fifteen Sections will be worked by Bro. C. Lorkin, on Tuesday, 27th January at seven o'clock.

Doric Lodge of Instruction, No. 933.—The regular Meeting of this Lodge was held at Bro. Clayton's, "Duke's Head," Whitechapel-road, E., on Friday, the 9th inst. Bro. C. Veal occupied the chair, supported by the following brethren:—Bros. West S.W., Levy J.W., Payne S.D., Davey J.D., McDonald, I.G., also Benjamin Cundick P.M. Preceptor, W. Musto P.M. Hon. Secretary, T. J. Barnes P.M., Clarke, Ellis, Richardson, Mills, Tate, McGrath, Waterer, Job, Loane, Stephens, Taylor, Clayton, &c. Lodge was opened in due form. Bro. Richardson answered the questions, and was passed in an able manner by Bro. Veal. Bro. P.M. Barnes worked the whole of the sections of the lecture, assisted by the brethren. Lodge was resumed, and Bro. Payne of 933 was elected a member. A vote of thanks was accorded to Bro. Veal for his excellent working of the ceremony, it being the first time he had occupied the chair in the Lodge. After hearty good wishes had been given, Lodge was adjourned until the 16th inst. To brethren seeking first-class instruction, we can recommend this Lodge.

The Great City Lodge, No. 1426.—The usual meeting of this Lodge was held on Saturday afternoon, 10th January, at the Cannon-street Hotel. Bro. George W. Blackie W.M. presided, who was supported by the following Officers:—Catchpole S.W., Hamer J.W., the Rev. R. J. Simpson Chaplain, N. B. Headon Treasurer, C. Taylor S.D., Kibble J.D., Keeble I.G., Baber D.C., Freeman I.P.M., and Jenkins Organist. The Lodge was attended by the following Visitors:—C. Fountain W.M. 1216, R. A. Wright P.M. 504, E. W. Davis P.M. and Treasurer 95, G. W. Saul P.M. 120, Benson P.M. and

W.M. 1613, J. R. Green 223, Warney 657, Tiddeman 813, Leon 780, P. W. Harris 177, T. Lee 862, Medwin S.D. 1613, Bossett 1851, Pardle 1201, Harper S.D. 1216, J. T. Jago 1259, A. Triggs 1385, T. Eastgate 1563, W. H. Kerby 1641, J. Berryman 1671, W. T. Buck S.D. 1702, A. Elford 14, R. Barham S.D. 144, H. Burgess and Smith 943, G. M. Felton P.M. 1613 and W.M. 1056, W. E. Pearce 1670. The minutes of the last Lodge having been read and confirmed, the Lodge was opened in the second degree, and Bro. Postans was examined as to his proficiency in the science. The Lodge was then opened in the third degree, and he was most impressively raised to the degree of a M.M. The next business, on the resumption of the Lodge to the second degree, was the passing of Bro. Wood to the degree of F.C. The Lodge was then resumed to the first degree, when a ballot took place for Mr. William Murdoch, who was a candidate for admission to the Lodge, and this being unanimous in his favour, he was introduced, and formally initiated into the mysteries of ancient Freemasonry. Some communications having been received, Bro. Headon P.M. and Treasurer, gave notice that at the next Lodge he should move that 25 guineas be voted from the funds, to be placed on the list of the W. Master, who would, as Steward, represent the Lodge at the next Festival for the benefit of the Girls' School. The Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned for refreshment, and on the withdrawal of the cloth, the usual formal toasts were given, Bro. the Rev. R. J. Simpson responding for the Grand Officers. The W.M. proposed the health of their brother initiate, who had been proposed by a very worthy member of the Lodge, which was a sufficient guarantee of his quality. It was necessary that they should have fresh blood infused into their Order from time to time, for without it their privileges would soon become extinct. There had that night been laid the first stone of a symbolic building, and he hoped that what their brother initiate had passed through in the ceremony had been deeply impressed upon his mind, and he trusted that he would never regret the step he had taken, but ever remember with pleasure his birthday in Freemasonry. Bro. Murdoch briefly returned thanks, expressing a hope that he might become a good and faithful Mason. The Immediate Past Master, Bro. Freeman, in very complimentary terms, proposed the health of the W. Master, who acknowledged the hearty reception they had given him on all occasions, and particularly since he had been installed into the chair. He would do his best during the time he occupied that position to give them satisfaction, and when the time arrived for him to instal his successor he trusted he should be able to deliver up the Lodge to him, with all the prestige for good working he had received with it. As he was about to represent the Lodge as Steward at the Girls' School Festival, he trusted the brethren would rally round him upon that occasion. The health of the Visitors was given, the W.M. giving them all a hearty welcome, for which several returned thanks. The health of the Past Masters of the Lodge was also given and responded to. The W. Master then gave the health of Bro. Headon P.M. and Treasurer, and that of Bro. Moody P.M. and Secretary, expressing his great regret that the latter, in consequence of illness, was unable to be present amongst them that evening. Bro. Headon, in replying, said:—Worshipful Master, Bro. Wardens, and Brethren—Allow me first to thank you, on behalf of the Secretary, who, as you have heard, is too indisposed to be with us this evening, but who will, I am sure, be very gratified to know he has been so kindly thought of in his absence. And now for the Treasurer. I can assure you it is very difficult for me to find fresh words to express my thanks for the very kind way in which this toast is always mentioned and received. However, there are a few lines in Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, which well express my sentiments, and which I think I cannot do better than quote on this occasion:—

"I can no other answer make but thanks,
And thanks, and ever thanks. Often good turns
Are shuffled off with such uncurrent pay;
But were my work, as is my conscience, firm,
You should find better dealing."

Some other toasts were given, and the evening was spent in great cordiality, the concluding toast being given by Bro. Steedman the Tyler.

Marquess of Ripon Lodge of Instruction.—Held at the Pembury Tavern, Amhurst-road, Hackney, on Monday, 12th January. Present—Bros. Finch W.M., McDowall S.W., Crane J.W., Goodman S.D., High I.G., J. Lorkin Secretary, C. Lorkin Preceptor; also Bro. Beckett. After preliminaries, ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. Beckett candidate; the ceremony of the 2nd degree was also rehearsed with the same candidate, who was afterwards elected a member of this Lodge of Instruction. Bro. McDowall was elected W.M. for the ensuing week. A cordial vote of thanks was recorded to the W.M. for the able manner in which he had fulfilled the duties of the chair.

Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held at York, on Monday, the chair being occupied by Bro. J. S. Cumberland I.P.M., in the unavoidable absence of the W.M. Bro. C. G. Padel. The whole of the Officers were in their places, and on the dais were Bros. T. B. Whytehead P.M., G. Balmford P.M., &c., and many visitors and brethren were also present. The business consisted of the raising of Bro. Brown to the third degree, which was well worked by the I.P.M. Bro. Whytehead announced that the books in the Lodge library were now available for the members. A liberal response was made to the appeal for the Benevolent Institution, and several brethren expressed their intention of attending the Festival. A successful ballot was taken for a joining member. A number of minor matters were disposed of, and the Lodge was closed. At refreshment the usual toasts were proposed from the chair. In replying to that of the Prov. G. Master

and the Prov. G. Officers, Bro. T. B. Whytehead said that Lord Zetland had shown himself the right man in the right place, and the circular before them, announcing that the consecration of the Ferrum Lodge No. 1848, at Middlesborough, would be performed by his lordship, showed the living interest he was taking in the Craft in not leaving these matters entirely in the hands of his Deputy. He (the speaker) had lately been turning over some old volumes of the *Freemason's Quarterly*, and he had come upon the announcement of the appointment of the late Earl as G.M. of England. The comments made by the editor were not very complimentary to his lordship, who was said to have been pushed into the office without any special qualification. Most of them remembered how the late Earl had falsified such an assertion by the manner in which he had endeared himself to the Masons of England, and he thought the case of the present Earl was curiously analogous. When Lord Zetland was installed at York, a few years ago, as head of this important Province, he had heard it said that his lordship had merely been appointed because he was his uncle's nephew. Well, how had the event proved? Plainly, that the appointment was the very best that could have been made. He believed every Mason in the Province honoured and loved his lordship as one who conscientiously did his duty to the Craft, and did it well. It was a pleasant thing, too, to see him coming prominently forward in the Masonic Charities, and he was glad to know that York would support him well on the 9th proximo, when his lordship would preside at the Benevolent Festival. The list of the York Lodge, 236, was already a very substantial one, and he hoped the junior Lodge would still sustain its already well earned reputation for charity. The health of the W.M., the I.P.M., &c., was then drunk, and a very pleasant evening was passed, enlivened by the singing of Bros. Wilkinson, Marshall, and others.

West Middlesex Lodge of Instruction, No. 1612.—

A meeting was held at the Feathers Hotel, Ealing, on Thursday, 8th January. Present—Bros. E. J. Acworth W.M., J. Wells S.W., C. E. Botley J.W., E. C. Porter S.D., A. Jones J.D., H. Youens I.G., J. J. Clarke, H. Stephens, Bellerby, W. M. Wyville, Gasson, H. Kasner, F. Botley, F. Brown. After preliminaries, the ceremony of passing was rehearsed, Bro. Bellerby candidate. The Lodge was resumed, and the ceremony of initiation was rehearsed, Bro. J. J. Clarke candidate. Bro. J. Wells was unanimously elected W.M. for the next meeting, and the Lodge was closed in due form.

Earl of Carnarvon Lodge, No. 1642.—The regular meeting of this Lodge was held on Thursday, 8th inst., at the Ladbrooke Hall, Notting-hill, W. The Lodge was opened by the W.M. Bro. E. M. Lander, who was supported by the I.P.M. Bro. Samuel J. Parkhouse, Samuel Smout S.W., C. Darby Reade J.W., George Penn P.M. Treas., W. J. Murlis P.M. Sec., S. Smout jun. S.D., Frederick C. Frye J.D., F. Delavante Org., W. W. Buckland Steward, Jas. Bartle I.G., John Woodmason D.C., and a large attendance of members and visitors. Among the latter were Bros. Jacob P. Batch 1273, Francis Bartle P.M. 1006, J. L. Baker P.M. 1305, W. H. Beauchamp 167, T. Williams 1261, W. Macneill 101, W. M. Stiles W.M. 1732, H. J. Turner 1608, R. H. Jackson 733, S. Pardoe jun. 1585, Thos. Fisher 733, J. B. Frye 195, J. Gillingham 1238, G. Davis S.W. 167, W. W. Morgan jun. FREEMASON'S CHRONICLE, &c. The minutes of the last meeting having been confirmed, the Lodge was advanced and, on the special request of Bro. S. H. Parkhouse, the W.M. vacated the chair in order that his Immediate Past Master might advance the brethren whom he had initiated. Bro. Hart was on this occasion a candidate for the third degree, and in due course the ceremony was performed on his behalf. The Lodge was resumed, and Bros. Rubenstein and Job Gillingham—the latter a member of the Gooch Lodge, No. 1238—were passed, Bro. Parkhouse in each case performing the ceremony in a most creditable manner. Bro. Lander now resumed the chair, and proceeded to close the Lodge. Before this was done it was proposed that the sum of twenty-five guineas be expended in the purchase of a harmonium. After some remarks it was pointed out that as there was at present no accommodation for storing an instrument it would be better to postpone the question for a time, and accordingly the subject was deferred. The W.M. announced that a Chapter attached to the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge would shortly be consecrated. He hoped that it would be as well supported as the Lodge had been. Lodge was then closed, and the brethren adjourned to banquet, during which the W.M. appropriately drank with his Officers and the members, "A Happy New Year," a wish that was heartily reciprocated on the part of all present; later on he paid a similar compliment to the Officers of other Lodges. After the banquet, the W.M. proposed the usual toasts. The regular preliminary ones having been honoured, Bro. Parkhouse proposed that of the W.M. This was, he said, a special toast, and one that he trusted would be always recognised in the Lodge. Their present W.M. deserved to be especially honoured, but he (Bro. Parkhouse) hoped the toast would be heartily responded to for all time. He trusted the members of the Earl of Carnarvon Lodge would always respect the gavel of the W.M. and show him respect. The present Master was as distinguished a Mason as ever lived, and had always worked hard for the good of the Craft. The W.M., in replying, having expressed his thanks to the company for the reception they had accorded the toast, said he should do his best to secure success for the Lodge during his term of office, so that when he vacated the chair he might leave the Lodge in as good a position as it was when he was installed. The toast of the Visitors was now given. Bro. Bartle being the first to respond, that brother expressed the great pleasure he experienced in attending. But for the invitation he had received to be present at their gathering, he would then have been in Cornwall, he was extremely pleased he had stayed in London. Bro. Stiles, who followed, complimented the members on the excellent way all their arrangements were carried out. No Lodge could attain

a higher reputation than was possessed by the Earl of Carnarvon, both as regarded its support of the Charities and the excellence of its working. Bro. Gillingham also thanked the brethren for the hospitality they had exhibited. He was especially indebted to them for their kindness in advancing him to his second degree. Bro. Spencer also responded. The W.M. then briefly introduced the toast of the Past Masters, to which, after a most hearty reception had been accorded by the brethren, each responded. Bro. Parkhouse having expressed his thanks, desired to say a few words on behalf of the Charities, for one of which he was working as Steward. If any of those who were present felt they could give anything for the maintenance of the Royal Masonic Benevolent Institution he should be most happy to add their names to his list. At present he had promises of over 200 guineas; by a supreme effort he hoped to increase this to 350 guineas before the day of the Festival arrived, but to do that he should require assistance from every member of the Lodge—he had no doubt but that it would be accorded, and that again the Earl of Carnarvon's representative would occupy a foremost position on the roll of Stewards. The profits on the Annual Ball to be held at the Kensington Town Hall would be placed on his list, a fact that should be an additional incentive—if any were needed—to make that gathering a success. It had been said that after the splendid result of Bro. Penn's stewardship that the Lodge would not do much for its next Steward; but he hoped, with the assistance of the brethren, to prove that to be an error. Bro. Murlis was gratified that he once more had the pleasure of responding. His affection for the Lodge seemed to grow warmer as meeting after meeting came round. He believed the Lodge was among the most successful ever established, and it only remained for the brethren to prove that it should ever continue to be such. Bro. Penn felt it a great honour to be numbered among the Past Masters of what on every side was characterised as a most successful Lodge. The Officers of the Lodge were next toasted, each of those present tendering their acknowledgments of the kind reception always accorded them. Bros. Rubenstein and Hart acknowledged the toast of the lay members, which brought the evening's programme to a conclusion. As usual, at this Lodge, Bro. Delevante and others exerted themselves to render the enjoyment of the party complete.

The fourth annual ball of the New Concord Lodge, No. 813, will be holden at the Freemasons' Tavern, Great Queen-street, on Tuesday, 10th February. The following comprises the Board of Stewards:—R. R. Harper W.M., S. George S.W., W. Gabb J.W., W. Stead P.M., T. Bartlett P.M., J. Taylor S.D., J. Thomas J.D., W. Pierpoint I.G., J. Stillwell Tr., J. Boulton S., A. J. Potter D.C., H. J. Allardyce, H. Blyther, T. Glass, P. Harnett, G. Mastoe and F. Swales. Application for tickets should be made to any of the following, who form the Acting Sub-Committee, and to whom we refer our readers for further particulars:—R. R. Harper, 86 Clifton-street, Finsbury, E.C., S. George, 50 King-square, Goswell-road, E.C., J. Stilwell, Bridport-place, New North-road, J. Thomas, 62 Bath-street, City-road, E.C., Wm. Pierpoint, 58 Richmond-road, West Brompton.

A very agreeable meeting of the members of the St. Michael's Lodge, No. 211, was held on Tuesday. The S.W., Bro. W. Radcliffe, was unanimously elected W.M. for the next twelve months, while Bro. C. Greenwood P.M., Prov. G. Sec. Surrey, was re-elected Treasurer. A full report in our next issue.

A meeting of brethren will take place at the Metropolitan Hotel, South Place, Finsbury, on Monday evening next, at 7 o'clock, for the purpose of making arrangements for the formation of a Fifteen Sections Club. Bro. T. J. Barnes P.M. 554 and 933 has kindly consented to preside. Brethren are fraternally invited to attend.

The annual meeting of the Jordan Lodge, No. 201, was to take place last evening, at Freemasons' Hall, London, Bro. T. J. Hyland being the W.M. elect. We hope to give a report of the proceedings in our next issue.

The installation meeting of the Domatic Lodge, No. 177, was held on Friday last, at Anderton's Hotel, E.C. A report of the meeting is in hand, but in consequence of the heavy demands on our space, we must crave the indulgence of those interested until next week.

The place of meeting of the Ranelagh Lodge of Instruction, No. 834 has been changed from the "Bell and Anchor" to the "Six Bells," Hammersmith, at which latter place the regular weekly meetings will in future be held. Lodge is opened at eight o'clock every Friday evening.

The 17th annual ball of the St. James's Union Lodge will be held at Freemasons' Hall, Great Queen-street, on 3rd February, under the Presidency of the W.M. Bro. W. H. Stollard and an efficient body of Stewards. It is expected a numerous assemblage of Brethren and Visitors will be present.

Bro. Louis Beck P.M. Rothesay Lodge announces his annual private ball at St. James' Hall, under an efficient body of Stewards, including the W.M., Bros. J. Hancock, J. B. Docker, F. Green, G. Hudson, F. C. Jones Rimmell, J. Smith, R. G. MacNaughton, &c. Bro. Jarvis, No. 205, will be the M.C. Tickets can be obtained of Bro. L. Beck, Adam-street, Adelphi, and at St. James's Hall, Piccadilly.

ROYAL POLYTECHNIC.—MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS.—The principal events in the life of the beautiful and unfortunate Mary Stuart, illustrated by Tableaux Vivants. The descriptive poem recited by Miss Alice Burnelle. The appropriate vocal music by a Choir of Glee Singers, under the direction of Bro. Stedman. EDISON'S LOUD SPEAKING TELEPHONE, &c. THE ZULU WAR and the HELIOGRAPH. LONDON AS IT WAS AND IS. THE ELECTRIC LIGHT. INSTRUMENTAL CONCERT by the Paggi Family. POPULAR OPTICAL LECTURE. PHENOMENA OF LIGHT AND THE GHOST. Open 1 till 10, 2 till 5, and 6 till 10 Admission, 1s. Reserved Seats, 2s, 1s, and 6d.

GOSPORT CHAPTER, No. 903.

A Special Meeting was held on Tuesday, 6th inst., at Gosport, for the purpose of installing the Principals for the ensuing year. The following Companions were installed and invested:—Comps. E. S. Main P.Z. 342 Z., C. B. Whitecomb II., Valentine Brown J. F. Powell E., R. W. Mitchell N., R. W. Downing P.S., Count Des Geneys A.S., A. L. Emanuel A.S., J. W. Strond Treasurer, L. Canvin Janitor. After the business of the Chapter had been transacted, the First Principal presented E. Comp. George Felton Lancaster I.P.Z., with a P.Z.'s jewel, suitably engraved, as a mark of the high esteem in which he is held by the Chapter.

RED CROSS OF CONSTANTINE.

Eboracum Conclave, No. 137.—The regular meeting of this body was held on Thursday, at the Masonic Rooms, Queen's Hotel York. In the absence of the M.P.S. the Earl of Zetland, the chair was occupied by E. Comp. T. B. Whytehead P.S. Intendant General Unattached, and he was supported by E. Comps. J. S. Cumberland V.E., T. Humphries as S.G., G. Simpson I.G., A. T. B. Turner Recorder, M. Millington Prefect, S. F. Bousfield as Herald, Rev. W. Valentine Prelate, &c. Bro. W. B. Dyson of the Eboracum Lodge, No. 1611, was balloted for and installed a member of the Order. Ballots were then taken for Sovereign, Viceroy and Treasurer, resulting in the unanimous election to those respective offices of Bros. J. S. Cumberland, C. G. Padel and G. Simpson. Bro. H. Jackson was re-elected as Sentinel. Two Auditors were appointed, and the Conclave was closed. The St. Peter's Sanctuary and Commandery of St. John was afterwards opened, and E. Comp. Cumberland was elected Commander. Several opinions were expressed regretting the absence of regular communications of the ruling body, and hoping that steps would be taken to place the Order in a more vigorous condition.

ORDER OF ST. LAWRENCE.

Ebor Lodge (T.I.)—A Meeting of this flourishing Lodge was held at the Masonic Rooms, Queen's Hotel, York, on Thursday evening. The W.M. Bro. G. Simpson occupied the chair, and the following brethren, amongst others, were present: J. S. Cumberland S.W., T. B. Whytehead P.M. as J.W., M. Millington Conductor, A. T. B. Turner Secretary, T. Humphries I.G., P. Pearson Tyler, S. F. Bousfield, E. J. de Salis, &c. Bro. W. B. Dyson, of the Eboracum Lodge 1611, was balloted for, accepted, and admitted. Bro. Whytehead then presented to the Lodge, on behalf of Bro. J. Morgan 1611, who has left York, a very valuable and rare old line engraving of the Martyrdom of St. Lawrence, for which the hearty thanks of the Lodge were voted. Bro. Whytehead then proposed, and Bro. Cumberland seconded as hon-members of the Lodge: Bros. the Rev. G. M. Portal P.G.M.M. Eng., and President of the Council of Sido Degrees, and Bro. A. M. Broadley D.D.G.M. Malta, and both those brethren were accordingly elected. Bro. J. S. Cumberland S.W. was unanimously elected W.M. Bro. G. Simpson was elected Treasurer, and Bro. P. Pearson was re-elected Tyler. Two Auditors were appointed, and the Lodge was closed. The brethren afterwards met at a grill supper, and passed a most social evening.

An Amateur Performance in aid of the funds of the Warehousemen and Clerks' Schools will be given by the Connaught Dramatic Club, at St. George's Hall, Langham Place, on Thursday next, 22nd inst. The Programme includes "Little Daisy" by T. J. Williams, Esq., and "Weak Woman" by H. J. Byron, Esq. The band of the Honourable Artillery Company will be in attendance. The net profits realised by seven previous performances of this Dramatic Company have realised £572 18s 7d. Bro. T. W. Ockendon, 7 Friday-street, is Secretary to the Club.

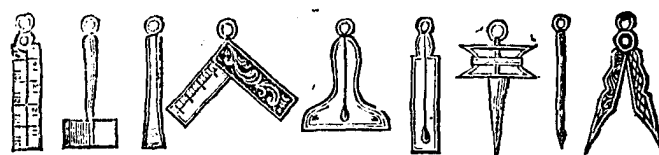
The installation meeting of the Samaritan Lodge, No. 368, Sandbach, Cheshire, will take place on Wednesday, the 21st inst. Bro. John Bowes P.M. P.P.G.J.W. Cumberland and Westmoreland will be Installing Master. We hope to give a report of the proceedings in our next issue.

TARLING'S COALS ARE THE BEST.—North Wallsend, 23s; Hetton and Lambton, 24s; Silkstone, 23s; Derby, 21s. 1s per ton discount allowed for cash on delivery. All letters to be addressed 5 Burdett-road, Bow, E.

MALTA.

LEINSTER LODGE, No. 387, I.C.

A large number of Members and Visiting Brethren assembled at the Masonic Hall, Isola, on St. John's Day, 27th December 1879. The Lodge was opened in due form, at noon, for business, the formal part of which having been disposed of, the J.W. called the Lodge from labour to refreshment. A light luncheon having been partaken of, the W.M. Bro. Charles Thompson suggested ways of spending the afternoon that would combine pleasurable enjoyment with profit to themselves; the result was, that several parties were formed, for boating, walking, and other pastimes. A considerable number took carriages, and were driven to Krendi, where they busied themselves in exploring the old quarries and interesting ruins abounding in the neighbourhood, leaving their marks for the inspection of visitors in future years, and, perhaps, future ages. After completing their researches, the brethren partook of slight refreshment, and then returned to the Lodge, where they were called to resume labour, the work carried on was conducted with earnestness, and in peace and harmony. In due course the Lodge was closed, and the officers and brethren assembled in the spacious banquet hall, where about sixty sat down to a sumptuous repast, with which every one present expressed unqualified satisfaction. The usual Masonic toasts were given by the W.M. Bro. C. Thompson, and were received with unqualified enthusiasm. The proceedings were interspersed by some capital singing by the brethren. W. P.M. Bro. Dahn of Leinster Lodge I.C., Bro. W. Read of Union Lodge, Malta, 407 E.C., and Bro. J. Abbott of 17th Lancers Lodge 218 I.C., added materially to the hilarity and general enjoyment of the company. The happy party dispersed at 11.45 p.m., each Brother anticipating a future happy meeting. *So mote it be!*



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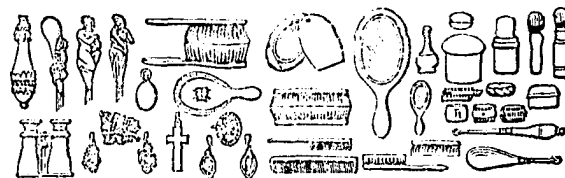
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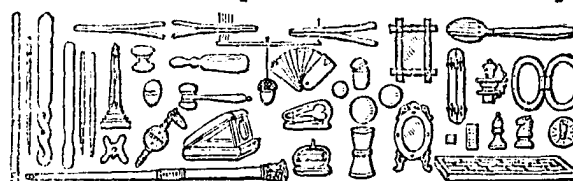
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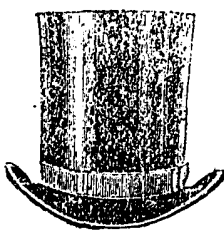
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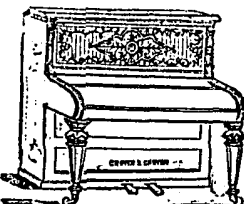
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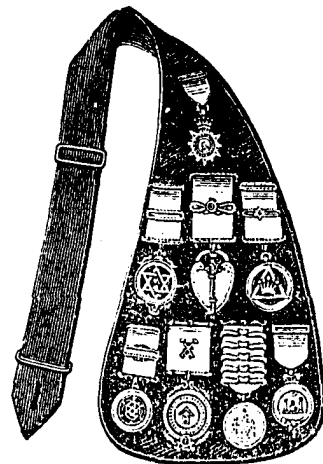
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